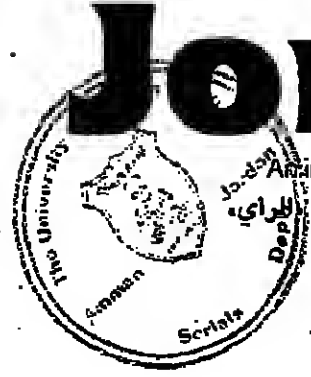


Cabinet renders decisions

AMMAN (Petra) — The Cabinet held an ordinary session Sunday evening under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and rendered the following decisions: the government will undertake to buy Queen Alia Hospital and a ministerial committee was formed to evaluate the hospital's assets; the Minister of Finance was appointed governor for Jordan at the International Monetary Fund, with the governor of the Central Bank as his deputy; the Cabinet also decided to modernise the Agaba Telecommunications Station at a cost of JD 700,000, to submit for legislative drafting a new law on youth affairs, and to undertake a reform of the organisation of the Higher Health Council.



Jordan Times

Independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية

Nablus memo submitted to Dudin

AMMAN (Petra) — A memorandum from the inhabitants of the Nablus region in the occupied West Bank was Saturday presented to the government. The document outlines the different projects required for that region to be included in Jordan's five-year development plan for the occupied territories. The memorandum was submitted to Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin by Mr. Mufid Mubaslat, member of the Lower House of Parliament from the Nablus constituency. Dr. Dudin and Mr. Mubaslat discussed the needs of the Nablus region and the health, educational and public services projects required by the population. Also discussed at the meeting were measures designed to facilitate the marketing of agricultural crops from the occupied Arab lands.

See related stories on page 2

Volume 11 Number 3243

AMMAN, SUNDAY AUGUST 10, 1986, DHUL HIJJEH 5, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Holidays declared

AMMAN (Petra) — All government departments and public institutions will be closed for five days — Thursday, Aug. 14 to Monday, Aug. 18, both days inclusive — on the occasion of 'Eid Al Adha which falls on Friday, Aug. 15, according to a communiqué issued on Saturday by Prime Minister Zaid Rifai.

Numeiri escapes car accident

CAIRO (AP) — Former Sudanese President Jaafar Numeiri has survived a car accident, the state-owned newspaper Al Gomhuria reported Saturday. It said the accident took place in a Cairo suburb Friday when a security vehicle crashed into the rear of Mr. Numeiri's car. A police officer in the security vehicle escorting Mr. Numeiri was injured.

Cyprus police name suspect

NICOSIA (R) — Police on Saturday named a man wanted in connection with last Sunday's guerrilla attack on Britain's Akrotiri base. A statement said Balis Najdat or Najdat Cholaan Balis, aged 23, was wanted for questioning over the mortar, rocket and machine-gun attack in which two British women were injured. The previously unknown 'Unified Nasserite Organisation — Cairo,' claimed responsibility for the attack.

PLO leaders meet in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (R) — The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) met in Baghdad on Saturday and organisation sources said it planned to discuss last month's meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and King Hassan of Morocco.

Sri Lanka asks BBC man to leave

COLOMBO (R) — The Sri Lankan government has refused to extend the visa of the British Broadcasting Corporation correspondent in Colombo and asked him to leave the country immediately. A government official said Humphrey Hawksley's visa, which expired on Aug. 1, had not been renewed because his reporting on the island's ethnic problem had been biased. Mr. Hawksley, who has been in Sri Lanka for six months, denied the charge. He said he would leave Sri Lanka on Monday.

Soviet leaders tour Chernobyl area

MOSCOW (AP) — Two members of the ruling politburo continued their tour of the Chernobyl accident area Saturday, the TASS news agency reported. Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov and KGB chief Viktor Chebrikov met with Communist Party and government officials in the Kiev region of the northern Ukraine and the Gomel region of nearby Byelorussia, TASS said.

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Mubarak receives Moroccan messages

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

CAIRO — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak on Saturday received two Moroccan messages believed to be dealing with the July 22-23 meeting between King Hassan II of Morocco and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

The messages were delivered to Mr. Mubarak by a special emissary of King Hassan, former Foreign Minister Abdul Hadi Boutaleb, in a meeting in Alexandria.

The Middle East News Agency, which reported the meeting, did not give details of the message but an Egyptian diplomat quoted by the AP said Mr. Boutaleb's mission was to brief Mr. Mubarak on King Hassan's talks with Mr. Peres at Ifrane, Morocco.

Mr. Mubarak supported the talks. King Hassan sent Mr. Boutaleb to Egypt despite the absence of diplomatic relations between Cairo and Rabat, Morocco, along with 16 other Arab states, broke off ties with Egypt in protest against the 1979 Egypt-Israel peace treaty. Only Jordan has resumed ties with Egypt since.

In a nation-wide address to his people after his talks with Mr. Peres, King Hassan described the meeting as exploratory and said it broke down when the Israeli prime minister restated his refusal to deal with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and withdraw from the occupied territories.

The Arab states are seeking a U.N.-sponsored international all-party conference on the Middle East as the framework for peace talks with Israel. But Israel insists on direct talks under a loosely-defined "international umbrella." During a visit to Jordan last month by U.S. Vice-President George Bush, His Majesty King Hussein reiterated Jordan's refusal to open direct talks with Israel except within the framework of an international conference as called for.

In Washington on Friday, State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman said the U.S. understands the importance Jordan attaches to an international context for peace talks. But Redman dismissed Arab press reports that the U.S. was drafting a new Middle East peace plan in the wake of Mr. Bush's visit to the region. Redman said he was unaware of any suggestions for a heads of state meeting on the Middle East.

The spokesman was apparently referring to a report carried on Friday by the Lebanese As Safir newspaper that Mr. Bush, during his visit last month to the Middle East, had suggested a meeting of King Hussein, President Hosni Mubarak, Mr. Peres and President Ronald Reagan.

"Our views on an international conference are well known," Redman said. "We understand the importance for King Hussein of an international context for direct negotiations with Israel." "We would support any arrangement acceptable to all the

parties which furthers the goal of direct negotiations," he added.

In another development on Friday, an Israeli newspaper reported that Mr. Peres had rejected a Romanian offer to set up a meeting with PLO leaders, including Chairman Yasser Arafat.

The Hadashot daily based its report on a meeting between Mr. Peres and visiting Romanian envoy Ion Stojan.

Mr. Stojan's visit to Israel follows an announcement in Moscow and Tel Aviv that Soviet and Israeli diplomats will meet in Helsinki, Finland, later this month to discuss consular issues between the two countries. The Soviet Union broke off ties with Israel during the 1967 Middle East.

Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir said on Saturday the Helsinki talks could be a first step towards restoration of formal relations.

"It is a modest beginning to the opening of talks on some type of relations we do not know the quality of yet," he said on Israel Radio.

But Mr. Shamir, due to become prime minister in October under a power-sharing agreement with Mr. Peres, said there could be no improvement in Israeli-Soviet relations if the Kremlin did not "improve" its policy towards Soviet Jews.

Mr. Shamir's statements indicated a softening of his line towards the Soviet Union. On Wednesday Mr. Shamir, leader of the right-wing Likud bloc, warned a party convention that the Kremlin wanted to talk to Israel only to serve its own interest.

Mr. Shamir said Israel was interested in resuming diplomatic relations with the Kremlin because of its influence in the world and the presence of two million Jews inside the Soviet Union.

Security men hunt for Beirut bombers

BEIRUT (R) — Syrian-backed troops and police scoured west Beirut on Saturday for car bombers who killed 17 people in the sixth explosion to shake the Lebanese capital in two weeks.

Lebanese army soldiers and police with automatic rifles stepped up patrols after a FIAT packed with 50 kilograms of explosives detonated on Friday, turning a crowded street into an inferno of burning debris.

Syrian soldiers stood guard as police questioned motorists and searched cars in the mainly Muslim western sector and its southern suburbs in an effort to catch the bombers and shore up a west Beirut security crackdown, witnesses said.

Shopkeepers placed rocks outside their premises to stop cars parking as weeping mourners buried three of the victims, including a five-year-old child, in a Sunni Muslim cemetery.

Three children were among the 17 people killed by the blast which wounded about 60 people, security sources said.

The explosion, the second car bomb in the western sector in two weeks, jolted a west Beirut law-and-order drive backed by an estimated 800 Syrian security personnel (See page 2).

Four bombs have hit predominantly Christian east Beirut in the same period.

A judicial source said a 20-year-old Lebanese woman was being questioned in connection with a car bomb explosion that killed 24 people in west Beirut on July 29.

But he added: "Questioning is continuing to clarify several points and no formal charges have been levelled against her."

On the political scene, signs of a thaw emerged with talks between Mohammad Shukair, a close aide of President Amin Gemayel, and Prime Minister Rashid Karami.

Mr. Karami and other Muslim government ministers have boycotted Mr. Gemayel since January, when the Christian president rejected a Syrian-backed accord to end 11 years of civil war.

Mr. Shukair held an hour of consultations with Mr. Karami at the prime minister's summer house in north Lebanon, political sources said. There was no word on what they discussed.

Christian militia leader Samir Geagea, an opponent of the accord, was quoted by a radio as saying his men would back any peace initiative "whoever it comes from."



CANARY ISLANDS DELEGATION LEAVES: A Spanish delegation from the autonomous Canary Islands headed by Governor Jeronimo Sadedra (third from left) is seen off after an official visit to Jordan on Saturday. Foreign Ministry Political

Department head Yassin Istanbouli (second from left), Chief of Protocol Shaber Bag (left) and Spanish Ambassador to Jordan Emilio Menendez (second from right) were at hand to see off the delegation (See story on page 3).

U.S. representatives vote moratorium on testing

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The U.S. House of Representatives has approved a temporary ban on nuclear weapons testing in one of the strongest arms control measures to come before Congress.

The Reagan administration had vigorously opposed the moratorium, approved 234-155, on Friday. The measure takes effect from Jan. 1 if approved by a joint House of Representatives Senate conference.

The measure would block tests of weapons more powerful than one kiloton, or 1,000 tonnes of TNT, and would last one year unless the Soviet Union carried out tests or refused to accept monitoring on its territory.

The test ban was adopted as an amendment to the house version of the 1987 defence bill. The Senate does not have a similar provision in its bill, so the issue must be resolved in conference.

Earlier the Senate agreed to lift a ban on Anti-Satellite Weapons Testing (ASAT) imposed in December 1985 and set to expire on Sept. 30. It voted 55-43 to shelve an amendment to the 1987 defence bill which would have kept the ASAT ban in place.

The house, however, is likely to vote to extend the ASAT ban

during debate on its defence bill next week.

The house, seeking to comply with the Gramm-Rudman budget balancing law, also voted 245-156 to cut its military bill from \$285 billion to \$279 billion.

The Senate bill — on which lawmakers were expected to vote late Saturday or Sunday — permitted \$286 billion in outlays.

The ASAT fight centred around an air force weapon that President Reagan says is necessary to offset a similar Soviet system. But opponents say the small, three-stage rocket launched from under a high-flying F-15 jet would only lead to a new arms race in space.

The house banned tests of the weapon during the 1986 budget year, and air force officials say they may consider killing the system if that ban is continued. An extension of the ban has been proposed in the house, but it is not expected to come up for a vote until next week.

The Senate voted 64-35 late Thursday to approve the resolution calling for a total nuclear test ban. The measure also asks Mr. Reagan to submit for Senate approval a pair of 1974 and 1976 treaties limiting the size of underground nuclear tests.

Reagan gets check-up for urinary trouble

WASHINGTON (R) — President Ronald Reagan, saying "I feel just great," on Saturday went to nearby Bethesda Naval Medical Centre for what the White House described as a precautionary urological examination.

Accompanied by his wife Nancy, Mr. Reagan smiled and waved to a small group of well-wishers as he left the White House just before 1 p.m. (1700 GMT).

He arrived at the naval medical centre a few minutes later.

Before boarding his helicopter for the brief flight there, he shouted to reporters: "I feel just great. I'm sorry to disappoint you. This is just a routine check and I thought it was a good time to do it."

Mr. Reagan, who cancelled plans to spend the weekend at Camp David in the nearby Maryland mountains to undergo the medical checkup, was to be examined for possible bladder

stones or other urinary trouble, officials said.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes emphasised the checkup had no connection with the president's cancer surgery last year and said Mr. Reagan expected to be in the hospital only a few hours.

But the possibility that the 75-year-old president, who on Saturday became the longest-serving U.S. chief executive since Dwight Eisenhower, might have another medical problem caused jitters on Friday, including a brief drop in U.S. stock market prices.

Mr. Reagan had a history of bladder stones and doctors have had the checkup on them now because he has a busy fall schedule, Speakes said.

He said he did not know if Mr. Reagan had any pain, bleeding or other symptoms of urinary trouble.

"I'm not aware of anything and

Israelis close Jerusalem theatre

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Israeli army ordered a 24-hour closure of a Palestinian theatre in East Jerusalem on Saturday saying it was to ban a Palestinian demonstration.

The Israeli military command said that General Ehud Barak, head of central command, ordered the closure "because of a planned meeting of the Popular Struggle Front," a faction founded in the occupied Gaza Strip and headed by Dr. Samir Ghosheh.

The Palestine Press Service, which monitors news in the occupied territories, denied that any rally was planned in the hall that is located in East Jerusalem.

The press service said that the closure prevented a performance by dancers from the Popular Art Troupe from a village in the occupied West Bank. Other Palestinian sources said that some of the troupe's songs may include Palestinian nationalist themes.

The Israeli command said that the closure, which began at 0600 GMT Saturday, would end at that hour on Sunday.

he's told us he feels fine," Speakes said.

"This has been a history (of bladder stones) with the president so it's something they keep an eye on and frequently test for," Speakes said. "They figured along about this time would be a good chance to have another (checkup)."

Asked what would happen if doctors found a bladder stone, Speakes said he did not know if they would remove it immediately or give Mr. Reagan medication to help it pass out normally.

He said Mr. Reagan would get a local anaesthetic for the checkup at Bethesda Medical Centre. He said vacationing Vice President George Bush would not be called back from Maine.

Iraq, when reporting the raids on Amman, said the attacks were against a military camp, the second time it was hit in two days.

The warring sides have been trading accusations of attacks on civilian and economic targets, after an earlier Iranian shelling of the northern Iraqi border village of Sirwan.

Eighty-six civilians, 21 of them children, were killed and 129 injured in the Wednesday shelling, according to Iraqi officials.

Tehran Radio, monitored in Bahrain, on Saturday broadcast an Iranian denial of the shelling of Sirwan.

Iraqi officials escorted a group of 120 reporters and ranking Baghdad-based diplomats to Sirwan on Friday. There was evidence of shelling and no military installations were sighted.

Again, Iraq warned the Iranians against shelling civilian areas.

Iranian shelling kills 6 more Iraqis

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iranian border gunners shelled Iraq's second-largest city on Saturday, killing six civilians and injuring 38 others, the Iraqi military command said.

The dead included four children, it said. Among the injured in the shelling of the southern port of Basra were eight children, according to a war communique issued by the general command of the armed forces.

Three houses were demolished, four set on fire, and eighteen others sustained damage, said the communique.

Basra has a population of one million, second Baghdad. It straddles the disputed Shatt Al Arab waterway and is about 23 kilometres west of the southern sector of the Iraq-Iran warfront.

The city has been the target of unsuccessful ground offensives during the 70-month-old war, and in the past two weeks was shelled almost daily.

Two Iranian U.S.-built F-5 jet fighters violated Iraqi air space and tried to bomb "residential areas in Agra county, but were confronted by our air defences and were forced to flee," the Iraqi communique said.

Iran, on the other hand, said the Iranian planes bombed oil installations in Agra in the northern Iraqi Kurdistan region, 40 kilometres southwest of the Iraq-Turkey border. Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency, monitored in Cyprus, said all raiding jets returned safely to base.

Agra is a Kurdish agricultural mountain town that has no oil installations. The oil fields are centred in Kirkuk, about 170 kilometres to the southeast.

The Iranian news agency on Friday said Iraqi warplanes attacked the border town of Amman, southwest of Banah in northwestern Iran. It said two people were killed and 10 injured. Eleven houses were destroyed, it added.

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Beirut explosions bring call for political action

BEIRUT (R) — Fresh carnage in the crowded streets of Beirut, with 17 reported dead and 60 wounded by a massive car bomb, brought strong demands Saturday for political action to end two weeks of bloodshed.

The Lebanese capital's sixth major bomb explosion in 10 days ripped through a narrow thoroughfare in mainly Muslim west Beirut Friday. Security sources said at least three children were among the dead.

The sources told Reuters that the bomb, containing about 50 kilograms of explosives in addition to some 82 mm mortar shells, was planted in a car near Beirut Arab University.

The wounded included four children and 34 women, the sources said.

The explosion followed the deployment of Syrian and Lebanese troops in west Beirut's southern suburbs on Aug. 4 in a bid to extend a month-long drive against independent militias.

On the political front, Prime Minister Rashid Karami called on all cabinet ministers to "shoulder their responsibilities jointly" and meet to study ways of ending Lebanon's latest crisis.

The cabinet has not met in normal session for over a year. The prime minister was

speaking after chairing a meeting of a mainly opposition committee of government ministers who boycotted contact with Falangist President Amin Gemayel after his rejection of a Syrian-brokered peace plan last January.

The Christian Voice of Lebanon radio said three Christian ministers who have backed Mr. Gemayel's stand would agree to Mr. Karami's proposal.

The latest bomb brought to more than 70 the number of people killed in explosions devastating areas of west and Christian east Beirut in just under two weeks.

The blast, about one kilometre from the Palestinian camps of Sabra and Shatila, erupted shortly before Muslim worshippers attended Friday prayers at a nearby mosque.

No damage was done to offices of the Lebanese Communist Party and the Shi'ite Muslim Amal movement in the street.

Falangist and opposition forces Friday exchanged artillery and

mortar fire across Beirut's dividing green line and radio stations reported several people wounded.

The shelling affected a number of homes in both areas of the capital and the radios said a shell landed at an orphanage in west Beirut, wounding two children.

Lebanon's Shi'ite Muslim militias staged a show of force in the Shi'ite southern suburbs of Beirut Friday, four days after a Syrian-backed peace plan was extended to the area.

"You are not an alternative to the national army. But you are an inseparable part of it," Shi'ite Amal leader Nabih Berri told about 800 fighters with tanks and long-range guns drawn up in a small football stadium.

Mr. Berri, flanked by Amal's top military official Aki Hammieh and his deputy, Col. Akel Haidar, took the salute as militiamen passed in front of a wooden stand in detachments of infantry, commandos and military police.

The stand was covered with portraits of Iranian leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and missing Lebanese Shi'ite leader Musa Sadr.

The celebrations marked the first anniversary of the formation of Amal "regular forces."

Qadhafi, Mahdi discuss 'unity, cooperation'

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi has held talks with Sudanese Prime Minister Sadiq Al Mahdi on "cooperation and unity," the Libyan News Agency JANA reported Saturday.

The agency monitored in Nicosia, noted that Mr. Mahdi praised Libya's "revolutionary stand ... and resistance to imperialist aggression."

That was an apparent reference to the U.S. bombing raids on Libya's two main cities, Tripoli and Benghazi, on April 15 in retaliation for what Washington claimed was Col. Qadhafi's "support for international terrorism."

JANA said the two leaders met in the south Libyan town of Sabha and discussed "ways for the Arab nation to confront the crusaders' and Zionists' onslaught" and "penetration" of the African continent.

Mr. Mahdi arrived in Libya Friday for a two-day visit. It is his second foreign trip since he took office in April.

Gulf war escalated by new attacks on cities

BAHRAIN (R) — Iraq accused Iran of killing 13 people in a new round of air and artillery attacks on civilian targets and threatened retaliation "more painful than in the past."

In Tehran, meanwhile, President Ali Khamenei said it was Iran's "definite resolution" to destroy the Baghdad government before it would consider negotiating an end to the six-year-old Gulf war.

Iran said its air raids Friday on the towns of Miqdadiyah and Sa'diyah, north east of Baghdad, were directed at military and industrial facilities.

A Baghdad communique, however, said "living quarters" were hit and six civilians killed. It said Iranian planes killed five more civilians, including three children, at Amara on the Baghdad-Basra highway, while long-range shellfire claimed two victims in Basra itself.

A total of 60 civilians were wounded in the attacks, the communique said, adding that Iraqi reaction would be "heavier and more painful than in the past ... we will turn their lairs upside down."

On Thursday, Iraqi planes raided Iranian oil facilities and power plants in retaliation for the Wednesday night shelling of the town of Halabja, in which Baghdad initially said 74 civilians were killed. Iran denied it was attacking civilians.

Renter correspondent Subhy Haddad, reporting from Halabja Friday night, said 10 more civilians wounded in the shelling had died in hospital.

The escalation of attacks raised fears of a new "war of the cities." Several hundred people were killed early last year in air, artillery and missile attacks on major population centres on both sides of the front lines, which ended after appeals from the United Nations.

Mr. Khamenei's remarks to a Friday prayer meeting appeared to be Iran's final word on a peace offer by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein contained in an "open letter to Iranian leaders" last weekend.

Mr. Khamenei said Mr. Hussein's offer of a return of forces to international borders — an idea he had rejected when Iraqi soldiers occupied parts of Iran in the early years of the war — "showed the change in the balance of forces."

Iran currently holds strategic Iraqi territory around the northern Gulf port of Fao.

Gulf shipping sources, meanwhile, reported that Iraqi air strikes over the past month had knocked out at least five of 11 tankers Iran has hired to shuttle oil from its frequently attacked Kharg Island terminal in the northern Gulf to safer loading berths farther south.

Diplomats visit attack scene

Meanwhile scores of ranking diplomats from East and West, including representatives of the five big powers, on Friday inspected shell-stricken Sirawan, a northern Iraqi village where Iranian artillery gunners killed 86 persons and injured 129 others.

It was the worst casualty figure reported in attacks on civilian areas in recent months as the war between Iraq and Iran nears its seventh year.

The Iraqi commander, a brigadier who refused to identify himself any further, spoke to a group of a dozen reporters and about 100 members of the Baghdad-based diplomatic corps as he stood outside a soot-covered building where most of the casualties occurred.

The diplomats and reporters were escorted to Sirawan by Iraqi army officers and Information Ministry officials.

Iraq announced that Iranian border artillery gunners pounded Sirawan on Wednesday, killing 74 civilians, including 21 children, and injuring 140 people.

The Iraqi commander said about 12 Iranian "long-range shells," possibly 155mm, struck the village of 6,000 inhabitants at midday Wednesday.

"The enemy started shelling the area, this building and around it ... twelve shells," said the Iraqi commander. He then pointed to a high mountain ridge about 15 kilometres to the east where Iranian positions are deployed.

Most of the casualties occurred in that building, a U-shaped two-storey stucco complex which the commander said housed 300 people.

The residents, he said, were families that had already been evacuated from villages further near to the battlefield.

One shell landed in the courtyard outside the building, setting gas and fuel storage barrels

on fire, and resulting in the high casualty figure, said the commander.

He claimed that Iranian spotters in the mountain ridge targeted the building and surrounding area, where the rest of the shells fell.

"The enemy have some observation posts on mountains (who spotted) the building (which was) crowded with people," he said.

He also said three other villages closer to the battlefield were shelled by the Iranians, "but it is rather dangerous and we cannot take you there."

No military installations were sighted in the Iraqi area, and the village community are mainly tobacco growers.

"(There is) no factory, no artillery ... it is a purely civilian agricultural area," said the commander, wearing military fatigues and a black beret. He spoke in English, occasionally telling the diplomats they should move out of the area quickly "because we are being spotted."

A six-inch-deep, one-foot-wide crater was punched by a shell. The stucco building was blackened with smoke from the fire ignited by the shell, but there was no apparent damage to its foundation.

The invitation of diplomats to areas near the battlefield was a rare Iraqi practice.

Diplomats said they were invited by the Foreign Ministry to send either ambassadors or charge d'affaires. No military attaches were invited, these diplomats said.

The diplomats, many of them dressed in suits and ties, were flown along with reporters in eight MI-17 Soviet-built army helicopters. They were later driven by buses to the village and from there on a dirt road amidst huts and one-floor houses to the stricken location.

Pro-government Kurdish militiamen roamed the streets of the village, wearing their traditional baggy pants and checkered headscarves and totting AK-47 assault rifles.

Many of the diplomats perished profusely in the sizzling sun in the village which is about 1,000 metres above sea level. Temperature reached 50 degrees centigrade (122°F).

Heavy security was evident everywhere. In the sky, four helicopter gunships escorted the

transport choppers, many of which were armed with rockets. On the ground, jeeps packed with soldiers escorted the buses, and gunmen took to rooftops and street corners in Sulaymaniyah, the largest city in northern Iraq. At one time, armoured personnel carriers joined the convoy.

At Sulaymaniyah, the entire northern region have been for years a hotbed of autonomy-seeking Kurdish rebels, who are fighting the Iraqi government. About three million Kurdish nomadic tribes live in the northern regions.

At Sulaymaniyah, about 67 kilometres north west of Sirawan, the convoy was greeted by scores of Iraqis carrying portraits of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, waving flags and AK-47s. They chanted: "We sacrifice our souls, our blood, for you, O Saddam," and "Baghdad, you are the victorious."

At a hospital in Sulaymaniyah, where many of the victims were being treated, the governor of the region welcomed the group "to witness the results of the (Ayatollah Ruhollah) Khomeini aggression."

Sheikh Jafar Barasanchi, dressed in military fatigues, then invited the group to visit the ward where at least 30 women, children and elderly men were being treated for bone fractures and skin burns.

Some of the diplomats took pictures, wrote notes and spoke with relatives of the victims. Among the diplomats was U.S. Ambassador David Newton, who speaks fluent Arabic.

There also were diplomats from the Soviet Union, France, Britain, China, Greece, Australia, Sweden, Japan, Latin America and Arab countries and others.

A one-year-old girl still in a diaper slept with a feeder in her mouth. Her right arm and right leg bled. Red burns appeared on her left leg.

The baby, Jawan Nouri, is the only survivor of her family, said Sinan, a neighbour who was looking after her. On an adjacent bed was Shumam' Abdallah, a five-year-old girl, lying with bandage on her head and burns on her arm.

Sinan, a Kurd, spoke in broken Arabic. She said Abdallah was the only survivor of three families. Sinan said she survived the attack unharmed.

Waite renews plea to free Beirut hostages

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Terry Waite, special envoy of the Archbishop of Canterbury, has renewed his plea for Shi'ite Muslim captors to speak with him about the Americans who remain hostages in Lebanon.

"Let's get out with honour and with dignity and move forward. Because the longer those people are kept, the more the situation runs into stalemate," Mr. Waite told a news conference at the Episcopal Church Centre.

"I'm optimistic because I believe that in the captors and in a lot of people in Lebanon, there is human feeling and there is compassion, despite all the misery and difficulty," he added.

Asked whether the captors' publicity advantage weakens as time passes, he responded, "there are certain questions that I'm hesitant to answer ... because I'm thinking so carefully as to how it might be interpreted back in the Middle East."

"... I don't believe now there is anything at all to be gained by the captors in keeping these hostages any longer. I think it's been made quite clear by all parties to this that there's not going to be give at this point while people are kept hostage," he replied.

Mr. Waite, who has visited Beirut several times and said he met with the kidnappers, announced last Friday that Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie and Pope John Paul II had asked him to return to Lebanon to try to resume negotiations with the Muslim fundamentalists.

No date has been set for the trip, however.

He said he has tried in phone calls and through the news media to contact Islamic Jihad, the Shi'ite Muslim group which has claimed responsibility for a number of abductions of Westerners in Lebanon, "but for the moment, I am still waiting" for a response.

A statement delivered to a Beirut newspaper last Sunday, purporting to be from Islamic Jihad, said the group will never negotiate with Runcie, the Pope or President Ronald Reagan.

The group had denied in the statement that the Rev. Lawrence Martin Jenco, 51, a Roman Catholic priest from Joliet, Illinois, who was freed on July 26 after 19 months of captivity, carried messages from his captors to Runcie, Reagan and the Pope.

"Mr. Waite reiterated that Jenco had delivered the messages and said he had two theories for the denial."

"First of all, one could say that that could be a particular faction speaking," he said. "One (also) could say it was a tactic designed to keep this issue very much alive by making controversy of that kind — keep it very much on the international stage."

"It depends, I think, on the pressure that the group has been under. And at times when they've been under acute pressure, then obviously, messages have changed in character," he said.

He began the news conference by reading a statement, which said, in part, "hostage taking is often a cry from people who feel that they have no other voice."

"I would like the captors to

know that we in the church hear that cry. We believe it is wrong to make the innocent suffer, but we recognise that many innocent people — Christian, Islamic and Jewish — suffer in Lebanon and other parts of the Middle East today."

Later, he said Christian Churches, including Roman Catholics, Anglicans, Episcopalians and Presbyterians, "stand prepared to do something about it. But we cannot do something about it while innocent people are kept in detention."

Asked to elaborate, he said several religious agencies have voted "to boost the work in the poorer communities (of Lebanon), not only for housing development but for educational development and for scholarships."

"It was, of course, Father Jenco who was deeply engaged in that work — that's the irony of it — when he was captured," he added.

The remaining hostages are David P. Jacobson, director of the American University of Beirut hospital; Terry A. Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press; and Thomas Sutherland, acting dean of agriculture at the American University in Beirut.

The kidnappers claimed last year to have killed diplomat William Buckley, 58, but no body has been found.

Islamic Jihad has said it is seeking the release of 17 men jailed in Kuwait for bombing the U.S. and French embassies there in December 1983.

Earlier this week, the presiding

bishop of the U.S. Episcopal Church, the Most Rev. Edmond L. Browning, said in a statement that the church was fully supporting Mr. Waite's mission.

"The Episcopal Church, in both its pastoral and prophetic roles, has long been a consistent champion for reconciliation and remediation toward a lasting peace in the Middle East," Rev. Browning said in the statement Monday in San Francisco.

"We have ministered to the suffering in the region, with the help of the presiding bishop's fund's Lebanon Appeal, and called the attention of the international community to the urgent need to address the plight of refugees, prisoners, and displaced persons who are tragically deprived as a result of the ongoing strife."

"In an effort to address the root causes of the agony and despair, the church has also upheld for the public view and conscience the injustices in the region. This is particularly true of the continuing tragedy of the Palestinians. The consequence to inaction in the Middle East is catastrophic as clearly seen already, specifically in Lebanon and the occupied territories of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan Heights."

The State Department deputy spokesman Charles Redman expressed the Reagan administration's appreciation for the efforts of Mr. Waite.

"Terry Waite has been one of the most persistent and effective in this endeavour. We believe that his efforts have been helpful and we appreciate all he has done."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	
PROGRAMME ONE	
17:00	Koran
17:20	A Special programme on Arab children
17:45	Cartoons
18:15	The Duck Factory
18:40	Local programme
19:05	Programme review
19:30	News programme
19:55	News in Arabic
20:20	Arabic series
20:45	Tomorrow's programme
21:10	Local honouring ceremony for ex-servicemen
21:30	News summary in Arabic
21:50	Religious programme and close down
PROGRAMME TWO	
18:00	Leclerc des Fous
18:30	Catherine
19:00	News in French
19:30	French varieties
19:55	News in Hebrew
20:20	Agitation
20:45	News in Arabic
21:10	Charlie and Company
21:30	Documentary: A planet for the taking
22:00	News in English
22:30	Dallas
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.00 KHz, SW Tel: 774111-19	
07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsweek
08:00	Morning Show
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Pop Session
10:00	In Concert
11:00	Pop Session Cont.
12:00	Pop Session Cont.
13:00	Pop Session Cont.
14:00	Pop Session Cont.
15:00	Pop Session Cont.
16:00	Pop Session Cont.
17:00	Pop Session Cont.
18:00	Pop Session Cont.
19:00	Pop Session Cont.
20:00	Pop Session Cont.
21:00	Pop Session Cont.
22:00	Pop Session Cont.
23:00	Pop Session Cont.
24:00	Pop Session Cont.

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	
EXHIBITIONS	
The University of Sydney's photographic exhibition of the Agatha-Mat archaeological survey at the University of Jordan's Archaeology Museum.	
An exhibition entitled "The Statute of Liberty" at the French Cultural Centre (until August 21).	
An art exhibition by Marwan Shamsieh at the Housing Bank Centre Gallery.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267	American Cultural Centre Tel. 642710
American Cultural Centre Tel. 642710	British Council Tel. 6364778
French Cultural Centre Tel. 637009	German Cultural Centre Tel. 641593
Italian Cultural Centre Tel. 642023	Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 624049
Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 639777	Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 651195
Y.W.C.A. Tel. 641793	Y.W.M.C.A. Tel. 642121
Amman Municipal Library Tel. 637111	University of Jordan Library Tel. 843535
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabel Al Qura (Citadel) Museum. Opening hours: 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10.00 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 651760.	
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muzayyah, Jabel Luweibdeh. Opening hours: 10.00 a.m. - 1.30 p.m. and 3.00 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.	
Museum of Military Memorabilia: Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports City, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays. Tel. 664240.	
CHURCHES	
St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Amman, Tel. 624590.	
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabel Luweibdeh, Tel. 637440.	
St. Basil Church (Roman Catholic) Jabel Hinn, Tel. 661757.	
Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Amman, Tel. 623541.	
Amman International Church (Inter-denominational) meets at the Jordan Baptist School in Shamsieh, Tel. 677554.	
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabel Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Sait), Tel. 811295.	
Baptist Congregation (International, Interdenominational) meets at the Church of the Redeemer, Jabel Amman, Tel. 606974.	
PRAYER TIMES	
06:26	Fajr
05:57	Sunrise
12:42	Dhuhr
16:21	'Asr
19:25	Maghrib
20:36	Isha

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	
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ARRIVALS	
09:15	Agaba (RU)
10:30	Berlin (IF)
10:30	Kuwait (RU)
10:45	Cairo (RU)
11:00	Beirut (RU)
11:00	Doha, Bahrain (RU)
11:30	Amman (RU)
12:00	Amman (RU)
12:30	Amman (RU)
14:30	Kuwait (RU)
15:45	Tripoli (UN)
16:10	Riyadh (UN)
17:20	Brussels (RU)
17:25	Luxembourg (RU)
18:30	Cairo, Agaba (RU)
18:30	New York, Amsterdam (RU)
18:40	Aden (RU)
19:00	Brussels, Rome (RU)
19:45	Madrid, Geneva (RU)
19:45	Frankfurt (RU)
20:30	Paris, Frankfurt (RU)
21:00	Los Angeles, Chicago, Vienna, Rome (RU)
21:50	London (BA)
01:25	Baghdad (RU)
DEPARTURES	
06:20	Frankfurt (LH)
07:00	Amman (RU)
07:30	Damascus, Amman (RU)
08:00	Damascus, Paris (AF)
08:30	Beirut (ME)
08:30	Damascus, Rome (AZ)
11:20	Brussels (RU)
12:30	Athens (RU)
12:30	Vienna, New York (RU)
13:00	Cairo (RU)
13:00	Tripoli (UN)
14:00	Baghdad (IA)
14:00	Luxembourg (RU)
14:30	Cairo (MS)
15:00	Doha, Abu Dhabi (KU)
15:00	Kuwait (KU)
16:45	Riyadh (SV)
17:00	Sana'a (LH)
21:30	Singapore, Kuala Lumpur (RU)
21:30	Damascus (RU)
21:30	Baghdad (RU)
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Saturday rates	
Local selling rates in JLD	
Belgian franc	79.6 /

Study on status of Pension Fund in final stages

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A study on converting the government-owned Pension Fund into a specialised investment corporation is expected to be completed within the next few weeks. The study, prepared by the fund's board of directors, will be effective upon endorsement by concerned government authorities. Pension Fund Acting Director General Ali Gharabeh said Saturday.

Mr. Gharabeh said the planned conversion of the fund was prompted by the institution's limited financial resources which, he said, rendered it "incapable of carrying out its original task," that of handling monthly pension payments to retired government officials and ex-servicemen.

The pension payments, which are handled by the Ministry of Finance, amount to approximately JD 45 million per annum, 90 per cent of which is earmarked for ex-servicemen, he told the Jordan Times. The fund's contribution to the payments is in the range of JD 4 to JD 5 million which represent the fund's revenues in the form of monthly deductions from salaries.

The fund, which was originally set up to handle pension payments, has fallen short of meeting its task due to a lack of funds and handling pension payments was shifted to the Ministry of Finance.

According to Mr. Gharabeh, transferring the fund into an investment corporation is bound to improve the fund's financial capabilities as it will then be empowered to process investment transactions on behalf of the government, a move which he said will increase the fund's liquidity.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, pension fund's financial manager Yahya Kassab said that the transfer, if approved, is bound to inject new funds into the corporation and the capital is expected to rise from JD 42 million to JD 100 million. Presently the fund has between JD 8 million and JD 12 million in assets, interest and deductions.

The projected corporation will be a fully-fledged investment institution to be entrusted with handling stock market transactions on behalf of the government. It will also act as a reference for local, regional and international funding-sources who have interests in the local market, he added. Special facilities will be offered to orient investors on the best areas of investment and fields of production, Mr. Kassab said.

According to one key economic analyst, the change in the fund's status is a formality and he said that the activities of the institution will not be drastically affected as it is currently engaged in similar investment activities. "The change is not likely to be of any significance as the change will be in form and not content, the analyst, who requested anonymity, told the Jordan Times.

Joint Jordanian-Iraqi food industries company to start production by the end of this year

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The joint Jordanian-Iraqi food industries company will start production of tomato paste and pickled vegetables by the end of 1986. Ministry of Trade and Industry Under Secretary Mohammad Al Saqqaf announced Saturday.

The Baghdad-based joint public shareholding company, established last January with a paid up capital of JD 20 million divided equally between Jordan and Iraq, agreed to launch its projects to produce tomato paste and juice as well as vegetable pickling during a meeting in the Iraqi capital this month.

Mr. Saqqaf, who is also chairman of the company's board of directors, said that the tomato paste and juice project will be based in Al Arda in the Jordan Valley, while the pickling plant will be based in the Iraqi town of Al Noomanieh. In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Saqqaf indicated that the government agreed in principle to hand over to the joint company the administration of the Al Arda tomato plant, currently run by the Agricultural, Marketing and Processing Company of Jordan (AMPCO).

The plant has a production capacity of processing between 100 and 150 thousand tonnes of tomatoes per year and Mr. Saqqaf expects its total produce to

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rifai receives Lawzi, envoys

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai Monday received at his office Speaker of the Upper House of Parliament Ahmad Al Lawzi. Also Saturday Mr. Rifai met with Kuwaiti Ambassador in Amman Ibrahim Al Bahu and Jordan's ambassador to the U.S. during separate meetings.

Irbid by-elections to be held on schedule

IRBID (Petra) — Acting Governor of Irbid Hussein Al Abboushi has affirmed that the parliamentary by-elections to fill a vacant seat in Irbid constituency will be held on the date specified by the prime minister — Thursday Aug. 14 — although this day falls within the 'Eid Al Adha (feast of the sacrifice) holiday. He added that all arrangements have been made to hold the election on schedule and he called on citizens to practice their electoral rights.

Arab children visit Petra

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab children participating in the sixth Arab children's conference Saturday visited the ancient Nabatean city of Petra. They were briefed on its history and the Nabatean culture. The children and their supervisors were accompanied on the tour by Mrs. Hiyam Al Faraj, the conference's secretary general.

FAO plans information centre in Amman

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Agriculture Ahmad Dakkhan has sent a memo to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) director general regarding a proposed programme to develop agricultural information in Jordan and the Middle East. The proposed programme entails setting up a regional centre for agricultural information for the Middle East to be based in Amman. The proposed centre plans to develop agricultural information in Jordan by making available technical, practical and scientific expertise in the field of producing radio, press and television programmes.

Work continues on tourist village

NORTH SHUNEH (Petra) — Work is currently being carried out on the first stage of a tourist village project in North Shuneh in the Jordan Valley. Mr. Mahmoud Abu Jaber from North Shuneh Municipality said that more than half of the first stage has been completed. The cost of the first stage is estimated at JD 200,000 and includes baths, a cafeteria, an open swimming pool and a tourist hotel, Mr. Abu Jaber said. He added that the tourist village project consists of chalets, baths, a tourist hotel, public garden, children playgrounds, parks and public car parks. Work on the first stage started in February and the project is being built on an area of 42,000 square metres. The project's total cost is estimated at JD 1 million.

RSS to attend administration conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) will take part in an international conference on administrative sciences to be held in Amman on Sept. 6. An RSS spokesman said that the six-day conference will tackle public administration affairs. The RSS, he said, will be represented by Mr. Jamal Budur, RSS vice president for administrative affairs.

WAJ to hold symposium on wastewater treatment

AMMAN (Petra) — A symposium on wastewater treatment and the uses of treated water will open here Sunday with the participation of experts from world organisations and several Arab countries. The five-day symposium is being organised by the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) in cooperation with the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

The seminar, to be opened by WAJ President Mohammad Saleh Al Keilani, will discuss several working papers dealing with the quality of wastewater, health aspects in the treatment and the use of wastewater, the quality of wastewater in Jordan, present usage of wastewater in Jordan and the use of wastewater for irrigation purposes. Also to be

discussed will be recent research on the various systems for using wastewater and the reuse of wastewater in Asian countries in addition to reports on experiments reusing wastewater in Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the U.S.

WAJ advisor Ahmad Al Keilani said that the symposium is aimed at studying the best techniques used in wastewater treatment and the reuse of water for agriculture. Taking part in the symposium will be experts from Jordan, the FAO, the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in addition to experts from several Arab countries.

Benefits for farmers

According to a number of Jordanian farmers, both projects will help alleviate some of Jordan's agricultural marketing problems in areas related to tomato and vegetable production. Large glut of tomatoes have led to the eventual destruction of vegetables and financial losses for Jordanian farmers.

"Pickling vegetables and processing tomato paste and juice are two vital projects to help solve some of Jordan's agricultural sector problems," said Musa Atti, a Jordan Valley farmer and he recalled many seasons where he clocked heavy financial losses due to the limited marketing facilities.

The joint company's initial plans were concluded by former Minister of Trade and Industry Jawad Al Anani in December 1984. But after the cabinet change in April 1985 plans to establish the company were shelved until Mr. Saqqaf visited Baghdad last October. He was then elected as the company's chairman and the

Third annual industrial festival to open today

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan's third annual exhibition for local industries opens today under the patronage of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai. The exhibition is organised within the Kingdom's celebrations to mark His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne which falls on Aug. 11.

A total of 150 industrial institutions representing both the private and public sectors will be exhibiting their products in the industrial festival which was jointly organised by a consumer magazine and the friendship society for local industries.

"The exhibition will provide a good opportunity for the public to get first-hand information about industrial development in the Kingdom over the past 30 years," says Issam Odeh, the exhibition's director and president of the organising committee. The public will be able to purchase local industrial production at very reasonable prices as part of our efforts to introduce national industries to all people, Mr. Odeh told the Jordan Times.

The one-month exhibition includes a demonstration of various industrial products ranging from processed foods, ready to wear clothes, shoes, building materials, electrical appliances such as refrigerators and washing machines, to book displays and art exhibitions. For the first time, the exhibition will include special wings for the Armed Forces, the Civil Defence Department and the municipality of Wadi Seer. The Armed Forces wing will give visitors a detailed insight into the development of the Armed Forces since its inception, Mr. Odeh said.

The exhibition, which has the slogan "contribute to the development of our industrial sector," is erected on an area of approximately 10 dunums located between the Sixth and the Seventh Circles.

Savings fund prepares study on buying bonds

By a Jordan Times
Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Postal Savings Fund (PSF) has prepared an integrated study which will allow the fund to purchase development bonds issued by the Central Bank of Jordan. The project is expected to be endorsed by legislative authorities in the near future, according to the fund's director general Ghazi Rifai.

Mr. Rifai said that the project, which has already been forwarded to the government for consideration, includes a reshuffle of the programme-preparations for the fund and its future policy. The study also covers conducting scientific studies with view to identifying future targets and areas and means for investment, Mr. Rifai told the Jordan Times.

Mr. Saqqaf said that the company's activities will focus on food industries and he explained that both Jordan and Iraq need more food processing and canning facilities.

In December, Jordan and Iraq signed a bilateral protocol to expand the volume of trade between the two countries, up to \$750 million during 1986. Under the December protocol, Iraq agreed to buy Jordanian eggs, tomato paste, potash and vegetables for pickling while Jordan agreed to buy Iraqi matches, dates, crude oil and fertilisers.

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Canary Islands governor ends visit to Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Canary Islands Governor Jerenimo Safedra left Amman Saturday at the end of his six-day visit to Jordan during which he was received in audience by His Majesty King Hussein. The governor also held talks with Prime Minister Zaid Rifai and other senior officials. Mr. Safedra toured a number of archaeological sites and tourist places in the Kingdom.

In a statement before his departure, Mr. Safedra expressed

his pleasure at having visited Jordan and said the visit offered him the chance to meet with King Hussein and to familiarise himself with Jordan's development and progress in various fields. He expressed the hope that his visit would help strengthen relations between the Spanish and Jordanian peoples in cultural, economic and touristic fields.

Mr. Safedra was seen off at the airport by senior Foreign Ministry officials.

Haj Hassan warns employers, workers about labour violations

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaleel Al Haj Hassan has warned both employers and workers against continuing violations of the Jordanian labour law and their lack of cooperation with the ministry regarding its efforts to control the Jordanian labour market.

He told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that since the implementation of new labour measures in June of this year, it has been discovered that a number of employers are still harbouring and hiring foreign labourers who are without their legal permits and he termed these actions as carelessness and a blatant disregard for the law. This, Mr.

Haj Hassan added, prompted the ministry to increase the number of its inspection personnel and to increase their working hours in order to control the labour market. The minister expressed his regret that many employers still help foreign labourers to obtain jobs in the country illegally and he stressed that any violation in this respect will make employers liable to fines, penal sanctions and the deportation of labourers at the employer's expense.

ASMO issues regulations on Islamic slaughtering methods

AMMAN (Petra) — The Arab Organisation for Standardisation and Metrology (ASMO) has issued a set of regulations governing the slaughter of farm animals and poultry to be sold in Islamic markets.

According to the regulations, the phrase "In the name of God" should be said prior to the slaughter and the act should be carried out under the supervision of a Muslim adult. The animal may only be slaughtered with a clean, metal instrument and electric shocks and blows to the animal's head are not allowed in the process, according to the set of regulations which also prohibit the slaughter of certain animals such as pigs, dogs, donkeys and mules or flesh eating animals.

The regulations also stated the requirement of a certificate attesting that the slaughter was conducted in an Islamic manner and a seal on the carcass showing the source and proving that it was examined before being exported to an Islamic country. The regulations also have provisions for storing and transporting meat and examinations of the meat to ensure it is not contaminated.

ASMO Director General Mahdi Hannouch said that the set of regulations were issued to emphasise the importance of slaughtering animals properly and to avoid complications with regard to imported meat on which many Muslim countries depend for their daily food. ASMO is following up the matter with all concerned exporters and importers of meat to ensure that these regulations are being respected to provide protection to the Arab consumer, Dr. Hannouch continued. He explained that his organisation is concerned with drawing up unified standards and specifications in the Arab World.

Queen Alia fund to study means of preventing handicaps

By Elia Nasrallah
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QASWF) is undertaking a survey in Tafleeh Governorate to determine the number of handicapped cases, causes behind an increase in the number of handicapped children and practical steps that should be taken to strengthen primary health care to reduce the number of handicap cases.

According to Mr. Yusef Saleh, supervisor of QASWF's special education programmes, the survey is expected to begin in the first half of September and will precede a three phase programme to reduce those handicaps which can be prevented through better health care.

Mr. Saleh said that the study is designed to enable specialists to define social and health complications which can cause handicaps.

The survey will cover 700 families who constitute approximately 10 per cent of the total population in the Tafleeh Governorate. Mr. Saleh explained. This programme will be conducted at three levels, the first being a stage for tackling situations to prevent handicaps and he explained that this involves family guidance and additional protection for pregnant women and extra measures to prevent road accidents.

He said the second level entails tackling cases of handicapped children in the initial stage of life, and the third level entails carrying out a rehabilitation programme for handicapped children. This programme, he said, will be conducted in cooperation with the Ministries of Health, Education and Social Development.

The Tafleeh Governorate was selected for the study because it is the smallest of Jordan's governorates with only 50,000 inhabitants and because no previous study of this type has been done in the governorate before, according to QASWF's official spokesman and member of the board of trustees Zaki Ayoubi. He told the Jordan Times that the study is a preliminary step to introduce proper care for mothers and children in an effort to minimise the number of handicap cases. This could be done by providing proper facilities and

equipment such as incubators at hospitals, Dr. Ayoubi said. It is important to try to prevent a handicap rather than try to deal with the consequences which are costly for a country like Jordan, Dr. Ayoubi said. Therefore, he added, the QASWF which works as a catalyst with other voluntary and social organisations and government departments is striving to help reduce the causes that lead to handicaps of various types. "Our work does not contradict that conducted by any other society or organisation but rather it complements other work and is aimed at offering service to the community," Dr. Ayoubi said.

The survey is to be conducted within the QASWF's five-year plan which has an estimated budget of JD 6 million and provides for promoting and developing voluntary social work in Jordan. It also provides for conducting studies and seminars concerning social problems such as helping handicapped people. Also provided for is the establishment of a centre for education and rehabilitation of mentally retarded children in Tafleeh and one for the rehabilitation of hearing impaired children in Irbid, an education centre for handicapped children in Karak and one for development in Zarqa.

The QASWF has already established four pioneering centres for the handicapped in Jordan; namely, the Amman Centre for Education and Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped in Wadi Seer, the Yarmouk Centre for Education and Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped in Irbid, the Al Raja Centre for Education and Rehabilitation of the Hearing Impaired in Yajouz, and the Mu'ta Centre for Special Education in Ader-Karak.

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By Dr. Fahed Fakh

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Established 1975

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

ABDUL MUHAMMAD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

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Editor-in-Chief:

GEORGE S. HAWATMEH

Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,
University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 661171-6, 670141-4 Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO

Teletype: JORTIMES, Amman, Jordan.

The Jordan Times is published daily, except Fridays.

Subscription and advertising rates are available from the

Jordan Times advertising department.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Government subsidy of the economy and free market ethics

THE government on Thursday discussed and adopted a policy paper, presented by the Central Bank, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Industry and Trade, outlining fiscal and monetary policies and measures to revitalise the economy.

The paper argued, as a matter of course, that in this situation of economic recession and unemployment, an increase of public expenditure and a reduction of tax is more acceptable and desirable.

While the paper urged the government to increase public expenditure, and decrease revenue, it failed to worry about the expected increase of the budget's fiscal deficit, over and above the present high level of

more than 10 per cent of the gross domestic product (GNP).

Apparently this policy is being "borrowed" from the conventional wisdom prevailing in industrialised countries that sees business going into a cycle of economic recession, followed by recovery, then a boom.

For one, was under the impression that theorists of the Central Bank, the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Industry and Trade, who prepared the recommendations, realised that Jordan's economic difficulties are by no means part of a business cycle. They are rather a shift of the economic activity to a new level. These difficulties are the result of external variables and not a

domestic cycle that can effectively be dealt with through the traditional fiscal expansion policy.

The paper did, however, point out that the government had already implemented several remedies based on fiscal expansion, such as lowering taxes on profits, salaries, rents, and capital gains and reducing the price of water and electricity. It did not say whether these measures had achieved their objectives.

Instead, the paper called for more of the same measures. It defined the areas in which the extra expenditure will be employed and identified the means of financing it by borrowing from cash reserves of the Social Security Corporation, which

belong to tens of thousands of workers.

The paper recommended the payment of JD 10.4 million to landlords for compensation against property taken by the government for public use. In fact most of these properties can be returned to their owners, because they were acquired for projects which are either unnecessary or indefinitely postponed. The valuation of these properties was also inflated despite declining prices in the real estate market.

The paper also recommends to the Treasury to pay JD 6.2 million to the Post Office Saving Fund (POSF) to buy their portfolio of companies' shares (worth less than JD 2 million in the market).

The government will then re-borrow its own funds from the POSF through Development Bonds, thus paying high interest on its own money. It remains to be demonstrated how such book entries will activate the economy or protect the POSF depositors' interest already guaranteed by the government.

The paper also calls for the payment by the government of JD 8.4 million to "low-scale" shareholders of the Jordan Fertilisers Company. The substantial amount indicates that the shareholders who will benefit from these funds are not very small. The bottom line of this decision is that taxpayers will pick up the tap and compensate

investors in a troubled company. Finally, there is an investment programme calling for the allocation by the government of JD 100 million, to be spent over two years, to build schools, health centres, public buildings and low cost houses.

I have no doubt that such capital expenditure will help in activating the economy. The problem is that the authors of the paper ignored is that we now have a five year economic plan, which describes in detail all the needed capital expenditure. There is no need to come up with a special investment programme of different priority. We have either to stick to the plan, at least in its first year, or introduce the necessary amendments to the original plan.

Who are the rejectionists?

THE recently concluded talks in Morocco between King Hassan II and Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres, despite their decidedly negative outcome, were widely hailed in the West as a constructive step in the breaking down of emotional and psychological barriers seen to be impeding a negotiated peace to the Arab-Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Some analysts, particularly those who have come to see these psychological walls as a greater obstacle to peace than the objective conditions of Israeli occupation and expropriation of Arab land, seemed near euphoria as they described the visit of Mr. Peres as a "historic breakthrough." By and large, it is usually the Arabs who are charged with raising and maintaining these psychological barriers, which have been effective in isolating the state of Israel not only in the Middle East but throughout much of the world.

The image of the solid wall of rejectionist Arabs stems largely from the Khartoum summit communiqué of 1967, which stipulated "no peace with Israel, no recognition of Israel (and) no negotiations with it (Israel)."

Over the years since 1967, however, the Arab and Palestinian positions towards Israel have changed dramatically. Essentially, all Arab states, with the possible exception of Libya but including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), have indicated their unequivocal willingness to negotiate a comprehensive peace with Israel based on the return of occupied Arab territories and the right of all the nations of the Middle East, including Israel, to live in peace within secure and recognised borders. The only thing the Arab states are rejecting now is the Jewish state's voracious appetite for yet more territory, as expressed by Mr. Peres' unwillingness at Ifrane to even consider the complete return of territories occupied by Israel during the 1967 war.

It would seem more than obvious that now the barriers to peace in the Middle East are almost exclusively on the Israeli side, and anyone looking for evidence of a breakthrough in the mindset of the Jews of Israel had to be bitterly disappointed by the news from Tel Aviv last week.

First came word that the Israeli supreme court had upheld the presidential pardon of Shin Bet chief Avraham Shalom and other Shin Bet agents implicated in the beating deaths of two alleged Palestinian bus hijackers and the subsequent cover-up of Shin Bet's complicity in the affair. Most disturbing is the knowledge that the supreme court decision merely expressed the will of the Israeli public, which was plainly tired of all the fuss over the killing of two "terrorists."

Then the Knesset enacted two laws which, along with Mr. Peres' intransigence at Ifrane, clearly show that the Jewish people of Israel are far from ready to live in peace with their Arab neighbours. One law provides for up to three years' imprisonment for Israelis who dare to meet with "terrorist organisations" (read PLO). And the second, avowedly an anti-racism bill, ousts reference to discrimination on the basis of religion. For Arabs, it is enough to know that racist, anti-Arab Knesset member Rabbi Meir Kahane was said to have voted for the measure with both hands.

All of this indicates that the exclusivist vision embodied in 70 years of Zionist aggression is stronger than ever, now backed by the military might of the superpower-supplied Israeli state. As long as the Jews of Israel cling stubbornly to the view that only they are the "chosen people," and exploit a favourable military balance to trample on the rights of others, there can be no basis for a just and lasting solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Who are the rejectionists now?

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Private sector should assume role

THE monetary and financial policies announced by the government represent a positive step towards stimulating the national economy and an expression of the commitment this government undertook to carry out upon its inception. This policy is intended to increase local production, and create a convenient atmosphere for investment and attract Arab and foreign capital to finance development projects in Jordan. Therefore, it is important to remember that the private sector should be shouldering a greater responsibility in all this and in making the government's programme a success. This sector has to take measures for improving the quality of national products if the national economy is to be improved and if the government's programme of stimulating the economy is to succeed. Reviving the economy is not the sole responsibility of the government which was brave enough to introduce these measures, but cooperation on the part of the private sector is now urgently required so that the national aspirations can be achieved. Also it has to be remembered that the government measures are not a magical wand with which everything can be put right overnight, and therefore, patience, diligence and serious efforts are required to make things right for all because all are partners in this endeavour.

Al Dustour: Government fulfils promise

RECENT government measures to stimulate the national economy were a true translation of the government's policy statement announced upon its inception last year. The investment programme which the cabinet approved is designed to promote the country's monetary and financial policies and to reactivate the private sector and create favourable conditions for investment. The measures are bound to erase all negative effects of failures on the part of a number of money changers and financial institutions in Jordan and to lay the ground for a stronger basis for Jordan as a regional financial centre, capable of attracting capital to be invested in development projects. Also raising the ceiling for foreign and local depositors in foreign currency at local banks is bound to help increase the country's foreign currency reserves.

Sawt Al Shaab: Reviving defence pact

THE Joint Arab Defence pact committing Arabs to extend help to one another in case of external threats and attacks is now a priority in pan-Arab dealing because it is needed to defend Arab soil, interests and security. Iran's continued aggression on Iraq and the on-going civil war in Lebanon should prompt the Arabs to implement the pact immediately. It should be said that the pact places grave responsibility on the Arab governments and Arab people who should come to the help of one another and find solutions for problems that have negative impact on the future of this nation. The press statement issued by Egypt and Jordan following King Hussein's visit to Alexandria made this fact clear and urged Arab countries to unify their ranks and reestablish their solidarity in the face of the common danger. The Arab Nation should not be indifferent as to the Iranian aggression on an Arab country bound with the rest of the Arab Nation through the Arab League and its pacts and agreements; and the Lebanese people should not be left to face death in a futile strife.

Soviet decision vital to group of six test ban plan

By Stephen Addison
Reuters

IXTAPA, Mexico — The success of a one-year nuclear test ban verification plan proposed by the Group of Six nations depends mainly on Soviet acceptance, analysts close to the group said.

The analysts from the 36-nation parliamentarians Global Action, which was behind the formation of the Group of Six, said if Moscow accepted the idea of banning tests for one year it would put strong political pressure on Washington to follow suit.

They said recent indications gave them considerable hope Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev would accept the plan, proposed on August 7 by the Group of Six — Mexico, Argentina, Greece, India, Sweden and Tanzania.

The proposal was likely to be received favourably in Moscow, delegates said, because it also called for a ban on the space-based weapons which form the basis of U.S. President Reagan's proposed Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI).

The plan would set up seismic instruments at three test sites used by the superpowers — Nevada in the United States, Novaya Zemlya in the Soviet arctic circle and Semipalatinsk in the Soviet Union.

Between five and eight seismographs would be needed at each site and delegates said the measures would probably cost about \$10 million.

To distinguish between small earthquakes and a nuclear test on-site inspection would be

needed. The plan leaves open the composition of verification teams. The Group of Six was formed in 1984 to press for nuclear disarmament and regards the banning of tests as an essential first step.

It suggested at a two-day meeting which ended on August 7 that its plan form the basis for a year-long halt to testing as the precursor to a permanent agreement.

The Reagan administration has rejected the idea of a ban partly over the issue of verification of Soviet compliance.

A year ago the Soviet Union unilaterally suspended nuclear tests and last December extended the suspension to August, 6.

The United States continued its own tests but the Soviet Union has yet to announce an end to its moratorium. Delegates here hope the proposal will persuade Moscow to extend the suspension.

The analysts see an extension of the Soviet moratorium as vital for the success of a proposal before the U.S. House of Representatives to outlaw testing of one kiloton-plus weapons.

They took heart from the recent Soviet acceptance of a visit by a team from the Independent U.S.-based Natural Resources Defence Council, which carries out on-site verification.

"The signs are encouraging and we would hope this would come up in the next summit," said one U.S. scientific analyst, who declined to be identified.

Reagan and Gorbachev met in Geneva last November and preparations for a second summit in the United States have begun.

Turkish journalists plan press council for more freedom

By Ragip Erten
Reuters

ISTANBUL — Turkish journalists, who face heavy fines or jail terms if they break strict press laws, plan to set up a press council to fight government curbs on the media and tighten their own professional standards.

"Our main aim is to have the constitution amended to include an article banning all laws restricting press freedom," said columnist Oktay Eksi, one of the initiators of the idea.

Turkey's press law increased penalties for offending journalists when it was amended to conform with the 1982 constitution, prepared by a military-appointed body after the September 1980 coup.

The law deals mainly with obscenity and broadly interpreted "anti-state activities." It gives local prosecutors authority to close publications and confiscate material before distribution.

A law to protect minors from pornographic publications was passed last March, with fines running to millions of dollars.

Editors worry that future governments could use the law to punish their critics. "If an organised press council had existed before, the government could not have passed the obscenity law so easily," Eksi told Reuters.

He believes a press council linking journalists and publishers could act as a pressure group, representing to the government the views of the privately-owned print media. State-run Turkish radio and television would be welcome to join.

The council could also arbitrate in disputes over the truth of news items and warn journalists whose reporting was found to be inaccurate, Eksi said.

He said 30 prominent journalists and editors met in February and decided to promote the idea. Since then, they have been studying how press councils operate in other countries.

Turkey has nine leading daily newspapers with a total circulation of over 2.5 million copies among a population of 52 million. Most publish in colour and concentrate on human interest items and show business.

But many journalists have fallen foul of the law since the 1980 coup brought the military to power.

No precise data exist, but a recent survey by the left-wing daily Cumhuriyet showed that 27 editors have been given a total of 3,000 years in jail terms since the coup.

At least four newspapers and 20 magazines, most of them left-wing, were banned permanently after the military takeover, Cumhuriyet said. Many more were suspended for varying periods.

The editor of the banned leftist magazine Halkin Kurtulusu (people's liberation), Veli Yilmaz, was sentenced to a total of 1,170 years in jail in 79 different cases, the study said.

A government-appointed board set up under the March anti-pornography law has judged obscene at least a dozen publications. Cases have been opened against most.

Some journalists believe a press council would simply add another restriction on press freedom.

"Priority should be given to changing the constitution and the press law rather than (setting up) a press council," said Ahmet Abakay, chairman of the contemporary journalists' Association, a group of young journalists.

"There are enough penalties for journalists in the press law and penal code. We do not need new ones imposed by the press council," he said.

Abakay said Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's ruling Motherland Party was encouraging formation of a press council as a means of influencing the press. Eksi denies the charge.



Anti-contra sentiment growing in Honduras

By Anne-Marie O'Connor
Reuters

TEGUCIGALPA — Two bombings in Honduras have shattered the country's recent respite from political violence and prompted a barrage of criticism against the presence of guerrillas fighting against neighbouring Nicaragua.

Criticism of the U.S.-backed guerrillas, who operate from Honduran territory and are fighting the leftist Sandinista government in Nicaragua, has until now been restricted largely to the opposition press, students and left-leaning labour figures.

However, two weeks ago, unknown gunmen attacked a luxurious home where contra field commanders were meeting and since then the rebel presence has begun to draw comments and criticism from even the most conservative sector of Honduran society.

On Monday last week a car bomb damaged the home of a prominent Honduran journalist. He and his family were not injured.

On Wednesday, more than 100 Honduran journalists marched through Tegucigalpa shouting, "contras out of Honduras" in a protest against the attack. No one has claimed responsibility for the bombing.

Wong Arevalo is well-known for his strong editorials against the

Rodrigo Wong Arevalo, news director of Radio America, Honduras's most popular station, has said he does not know who put the powerful explosive in his car. The blast shattered the windows of his house and damaged the garage.

Some speakers at the journalists' rally openly speculated that Nicaraguan guerrillas were to blame.

"If President (Jose) Azcona wants to show that he wants to find those responsible for the attack, he can start by investigating the leaders and the bases of the counter-revolutionaries," said Renato Alvarez, president of the journalism students union of the National University.

Wong Arevalo wrote and broadcast a highly-critical editorial against the rebel presence after the attack on the guerrilla field commanders two weeks ago.

"I said that the counter-revolutionaries had the right to fight their war against the Sandinistas inside Nicaragua, not here in Honduras," Wong Arevalo told Reuters.

But he added that since he has also criticised the government, the military and the Sandinistas in his editorials, he did not know the motive for the attack against him.

Wong Arevalo is well-known for his strong editorials against the

presence of the rebels and U.S. troops here for joint military manoeuvres. He has also attacked human rights abuses and government corruption.

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), the main rebel group based in Honduras, denied involvement in the car bombing and blamed the Sandinistas.

Many Hondurans say that whether or not the rebels are responsible for such attacks, their presence could provoke an increase in political violence here.

The two bombings ended a nearly year-long lull in political violence in Honduras.

In 1985, several people were injured when a rebel group exploded a nail bomb inside a discotheque frequented by U.S. servicemen, later saying they wished to "exterminate imperialists."

A week ago the leader of the highly-conservative Honduran Private Enterprise Council, Jorge Gomez Andino, called on the Honduran government to "define its position toward the contras and the Sandinistas."

"If the contras are going to be here, they should follow the rules," he said. "They can't keep exposing people."

Last week the conservative La Tribuna newspaper expressed incredulity over the government's

contention that a large rebel presence could exist without being detected by the authorities.

It said the government position that rebels were in Honduras because the border with Nicaragua could not be effectively patrolled was a sad comment on the country's armed forces.

At the journalists' rally on Wednesday, one leader of the conservative Journalists' Guild, the Colegio de Periodistas, said: "The trash that is not supposed to be here should get out."

Armando Carrero, another Colegio official, called on the armed forces to investigate "if those guilty are foreigners and, if so, they should be expelled from the country immediately."

President Azcona has said that he fears that the granting of \$100 million in aid to the guerrillas by the U.S. Congress and the escalation of the war against the Sandinistas could provoke leftist attacks in Honduras.

Rebel sources say the FDN is planning to beef up its security after the attack two weeks ago highlighted the contras' vulnerability there.

However, diplomatic observers say it is doubtful whether increased criticism of Nicaraguan rebels will have any effect on Honduran support for the contra programme.

SECTION 1. INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Date: 09/08/1986
Loan No.: 2694-JO
IFB No.: 58/86/GAL

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the Jordan Water and Sewerage Project and it is intended that part of the loan will be applied for eligible payments under the contract(s) for which this IFB has been issued.

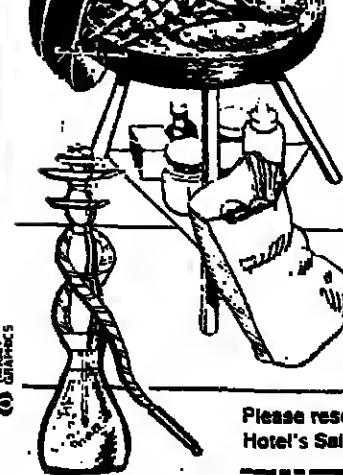
The Water Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of galvanised steel pipes of various sizes.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect the bidding documents at, the office of the President, Water Authority, Nabulsi Street, Jabal Al Hussein, P.O. Box 2412 Amman, Jordan, Tel. 8661117, Tlx. No. 22439 WAJ-JO. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 500. All bids must be accompanied by a security of five per cent of the bid amount and must be delivered to the above office on or before 1200 hours, Jordan local time, on Tuesday, Sept. 23, 1986.

Eng. Mohammad S. Kilani
President
Water Authority

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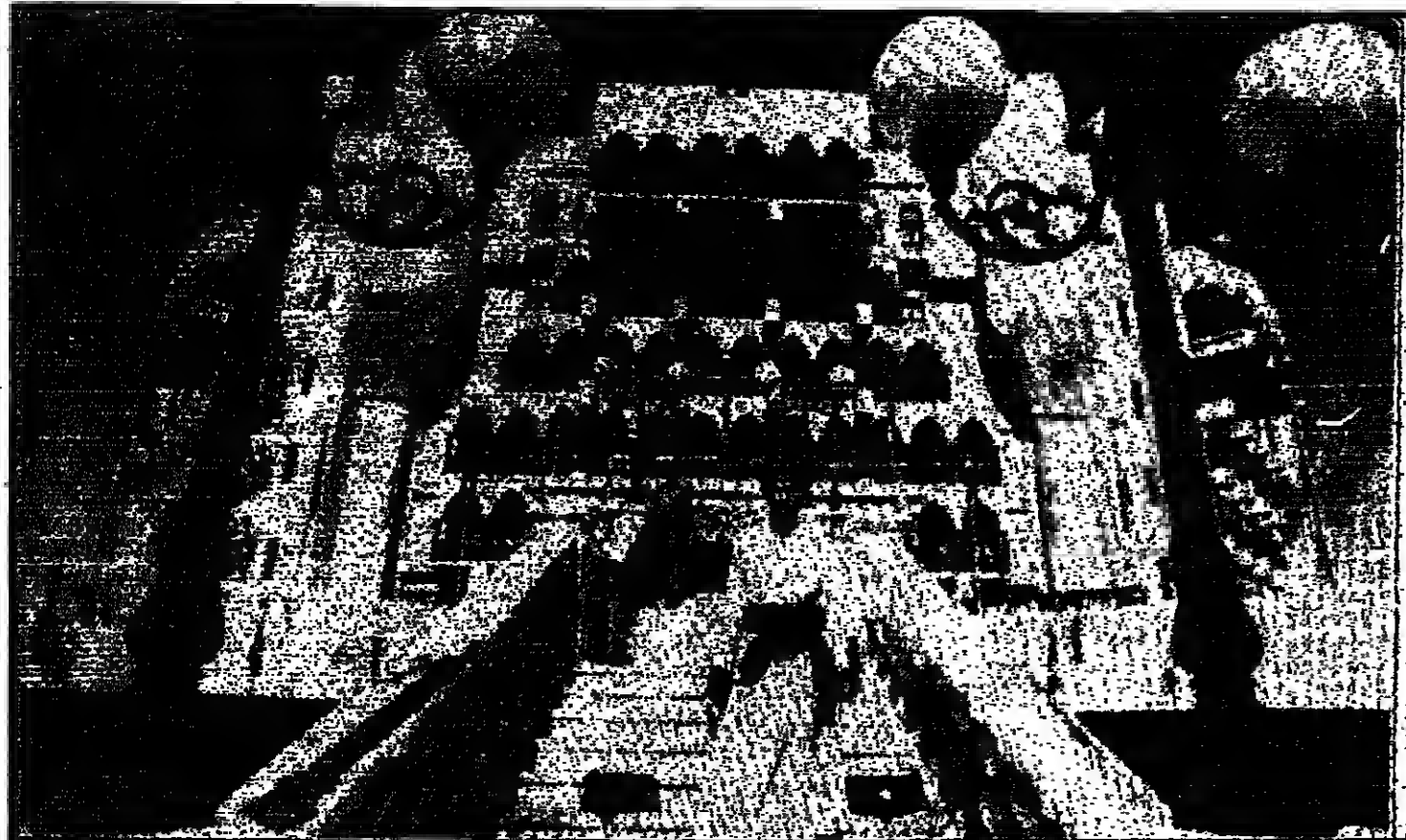


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An Omani official leaves the newly built Al Bustan Hotel, an Omani showpiece that cost \$232 million. The palace-cum-hotel maintains royal standards because it is patronised by royalty.

Oman reluctant to show off showpiece palace-cum-hotel

By Stephen Fidler
Reuters

MUSCAT — Oman boasts the most spectacular hotel in the Middle East — but is not going out of its way to show off the showpiece \$232 million Al Bustan.

The glittering, domed 250-room hotel, which first opened last year as a temporary royal palace, attracts little custom.

Built in splendid Arabian style in a rocky cove overlooking an idyllic beach on the Arabian sea, the hotel would grace any travel brochure.

But there is no rush of tourists to savour the majestic Al Bustan or the rugged scenery and polyglot culture of a country that has ridden into the 20th century in the last 20 years on the back of oil discoveries.

"It's felt that tourism would conflict with our culture," said Ahmed Al Rakaihi, secretary-general of Oman's development council.

So the nine-storey hotel has to rely on visiting businessmen — and their numbers are dwindling as an economic slowdown bites in Oman.

The hotel is usually no more than one-quarter full. The 380 staff heavily outnumber guests. Rooms cost around \$100 a night. Suites run to considerably more.

The top floor is off-limits to guests. Eight state rooms are protected by the palace guard of Sultan Qaboos bin Said, the ruler of Oman.

The hotel was built by the government to house guests for his celebrations last October marking 15 years of the sultan's rule and to host a summit of Gulf Arab leaders in November.

It was officially designated a palace until after the summit. The centrepiece of the Al Bustan is an elegant atrium with

three-tiered fountains under a vast dome 38 metres high.

The hotel also has an auditorium that seats more than 600. The British-educated Sultan Qaboos brought the London Symphony Orchestra to play here for his national day celebrations.

But business now is slack. Summer is usually quiet as the fierce heat of the Arabian day sends the mercury soaring above 45 centigrade.

But this year is quieter than usual in the capital, Muscat, in contrast to a bustling year of economic activity last year.

The reason is oil, or more precisely the price of oil. Oil is the engine of Oman's economy, generating 46 per cent of gross domestic product last year.

So the crash in oil prices — now barely a third of the prevailing price in 1985 — hit the sultanate of about two million people harder than its Gulf neighbours.

Last year Oman produced an average of 500,000 barrels per day (BPD), fetching \$27 a barrel. Today output is creeping up towards 600,000 BPD and the price is less \$11.

In other Gulf states the economic slowdown started four or five years ago, when oil output and prices started to drop.

But Oman offset weaker prices by boosting production, pushing oil revenue up last year to a peak of \$4.4 billion — some \$2,200 for every man, woman and child in the land.

Now oil prices have plunged so steeply, Oman can no longer keep the state coffers full by lifting output still higher.

But the business decline does not mean standards will drop at the Al Bustan. General Manager Gerhard Schmidt says he has to maintain royal standards because the palace-cum-hotel is still patronised by royalty.

A fresh assault on the spoilers

The following article by Judith Jedamus and Yuriko Hoshiai is reprinted from Newsweek magazine.

FOOD is destined to spoil. Until people learn to subsist on polypropylene sandwiches, they will have to contend occasionally with rancid butter and moldy bread. But spoilage can be delayed, and lately food engineers have devised some original methods to deter it. Blasting orange juice with sound waves and enveloping pasta in clouds of carbon dioxide aren't exactly orthodox ways to preserve food. Nor is freezing tuna with liquid nitrogen or boxing tofu in air-tight cartons that can sit in a cupboard for months. Yet these and other processes could keep food fresh and tasty — and, in some cases, might reduce or eliminate the need for chemical preservatives. Drying is one of the oldest and simplest ways to keep food. Colour, taste and nutritional value often suffer, however. Researchers in the food-science department of Purdue University hope to change that by giving the method a high-tech twist. The scientists expose food to a dual burst of hot air and low-frequency sound waves. The vibrating food particles give up their moisture 2 to 10 times faster than morsels dried in a standard hot-air chamber. The process yields natural tasting food that can be easily reconstituted — and at a fraction of the cost of other desiccation methods, including freeze-drying.

Sound dried

Purdue scientist Jay Marks says the group has successfully dehydrated hard-to-dry foods such as orange juice and tomatoes with the sonic method. That could translate into savings for packagers and retailers as well as processors. "If you can dry fresh orange juice in the grove, you've solved the refrigeration problem," says Hayes Gahagan of U.S. Development Corp. in Indianapolis, which is sponsoring Purdue's research.

Rather contradictorily, the sonic process can also help keep foods moist. Some ingredients, such as high-fructose corn syrup, are naturally hygroscopic, or water loving. When sound-dried corn syrup is baked into breads or cakes, it will attract water and keep the goods' fresh. One drawback: the process is extremely loud, and dryers will have to be well insulated to protect workers' eardrums.

Oxygen demolishes fresh food. It turns avocados and apples brown and makes butters and oils go rancid. Synthetic preservatives such as BHA and BHT combat oxidation, but doubts persist about their safety and they are banned or restricted in many countries. Scientists at Rutgers University believe they have found an alternative in two natural antioxidants that have been cultivated in kitchen gardens for centuries: sage and rosemary.

The preservative powers of rosemary have been recognised for years, but essences distilled from it imparted a bitter flavour and strong smell to foods. The Rutgers team has patented a process that extracts a tasteless, odourless antioxidant powder from the herb. Whisked into oils, the extract can substantially retard spoilage. A Michigan spice manufacturer, Kalsec Inc., is marketing mayonnaise preserved with a rosemary extract and hopes to add it to salad dressing and ground poultry meat. The Rutgers research group is now searching for a natural alternative to sulfite preservatives, which were banned in some foods by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration earlier in August.

Remember the Cruvinet, the machine that bathes opened wine bottles in nitrogen gas, enabling restaurants to sell costly vintages by the glass? The same idea is being used to keep packaged edibles fresh. Food processors in several countries are testing methods that draw oxygen out of a package and replace it with nitrogen or carbon dioxide. The process can keep fresh refrigerated pasta unspoiled for



Tomatoes powdered by Purdue's sonic method

45 to 60 days without chemical preservatives, according to Familia Industries, Inc., a New Jersey manufacturer. It can also help preserve cheeses and plastic-wrapped fruits and vegetables.

Other packaging methods can also extend shelf life. Aseptic containers, the laminated paperboard boxes that can store juice and milk for months without refrigeration, are widely popular in Europe and Japan. U.S. consumers have been slower to accept the process, but that could change. This fall Campbell Soup Co. plans to market four soups packaged in aseptic microwavable containers. Even more exotic aseptic products — from wine to barbecue sauce to tofu — have been introduced recently to U.S. shoppers. The method, which sterilises containers with hydrogen peroxide gas, doesn't work equally well for all foods: some consumers complain it gives milk a burned taste. But in many cases the cartons may keep flavours better than cans do. "It takes 1 to 3 minutes to sterilize aseptic foods," compared with 30 to 60 minutes for canning, says Mel Druin, vice president of packaging at Campbell. "That translates into better taste and quality."

Test tubes

Campbell, Kraft, Inc., and a

number of other companies are also testing multilayer plastic containers that keep oxygen out and moisture in. "In many situations, we find that food packaged this way has a longer shelf life than food stored in glass," says Lewis Erwin, Kraft's director of packaging research. Mayonnaise or ketchup stored in squeezable multilayer bottles should do well in the United States, he says, but it will take longer for Americans to accept other types of containers. He observes that food in tubes — commonplace in Europe and Japan — has never caught on in the United States. "You give an American a tube of mustard and he says, 'What do I do, brush my teeth with this?'"

Japanese food processors, long innovators in aseptic and barrier-plastic packaging, have also come up with some novel freezing methods. Tokyo Cryogenic Industries Co. sprays scallops, asparagus and tuna with liquid nitrogen, freezing the food almost instantly. It is then stored in a cooler at about minus 100 degrees Fahrenheit. The method costs 10 times more than conventional freezing, but it may pay off: tuna for sashimi, for example, can be kept for a year without losing its original colour or flavour. The firm has opened a shop in Tokyo called "Prat du Jour" for consumers eager to taste the cryogenic delicacies.

America clears first genetically made human vaccine

WASHINGTON — The American Food and Drug Administration has announced its approval July 23 of the first human vaccine produced by genetic engineering, which will be used to protect against hepatitis B.

"This vaccine opens up a whole new era of vaccine production," FDA Commissioner Dr. Frank E. Young said at a news conference. "These techniques should be able to be extended to any virus or parasite to produce other vaccines that normally cannot be propagated in laboratory."

The vaccine, developed by scientists at the University of California, San Francisco, the University of Washington and Chiron Corp. of Emeryville, a small industrial city across the bay from San Francisco, results from combining brewers' yeast cells with the gene of the outer coat of the hepatitis B virus.

The yeast cells become "factories," producing large quantities of the antigen portion of the virus — the part that triggers the human body to manufacture protective antibodies against future assault

by the disease. While the antigen stimulates immunity, it is not itself infectious.

Until now, vaccines have been made from viruses that have either been killed or weakened.

Young said that the recombinant DNA, or gene-splicing, technology could be applied to many diseases for which there are now no preventive vaccines, such as AIDS or malaria. "The same principles could be tried with an AIDS-related virus, or with the parasite that causes malaria," he said.

Federal health officials said that they expect the new vaccine to be more widely accepted than the existing hepatitis B vaccine, which used plasma obtained from infected individuals, many of whom are members of groups at high risk for Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.

Fewer than 30 per cent of those at risk for hepatitis B — including male homosexuals, intravenous drug users, dental and medical workers, immigrants from countries where hepatitis B is prevalent, and pregnant women in high-risk groups — have been

vaccinated using the older vaccine, Young said.

This low use may result from unwarranted fears of contracting AIDS, through the vaccine, he said.

"There is no doubt that the plasma-derived vaccine is safe and its processing kills the virus that causes AIDS, but the new lab-made vaccine should further reassure groups that they can be safely vaccinated," Young said.

About 200,000 new cases of hepatitis B, also called serum hepatitis, are reported each year in the United States, and an estimated 200 million occur annually worldwide. As many as 10 per cent become chronic carriers of the infection and are at risk of developing liver disease that can lead to cirrhosis and cancer.

The virus, considered much more contagious than the AIDS virus, is spread through contact with body fluids and intravenous drug use and can be transmitted to family members and close contacts. About 4,000 Americans die each year from cirrhosis, while 900 die from liver cancer related

to hepatitis B. Severe hepatitis B infection kills about 250 Americans annually.

"I strongly urge high-risk individuals to take advantage of this life-saving protection," Young said. He recommended that anyone traveling to regions of the world where hepatitis B is endemic — like China, Southeast Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Africa, most Pacific islands and the Amazon basin — be vaccinated.

Young said that the new vaccine was studied on more than 3,800 people and that "more than 90 per cent of healthy persons who received a three-dose regimen developed protective antibodies." The vaccine also proved 90 per cent effective in two studies of infants born to chronically infected mothers, he said.

The vaccine, called recombinant HB, will be manufactured by Merck Sharp & Dohme, which also produces the plasma-derived vaccine.

The vaccine is the fifth major genetically engineered product to be approved for human use, and the third this year — Los Angeles Times.

Florentines argue over 1986 European culture capital

By Alan Baldwin
Reuters

FLORENCE, Italy — The proud citizens of Florence, a focal point for artistic excellence since the 15th century, have been plunged into passionate controversy since their city's nomination as Europe's 1986 cultural capital.

Many Florentines already see their home as a cultural capital, with or without an official title, but the formal nomination stirred heated argument over the everyday running of the city and the cost of organising a year of cultural events.

Florence — one of the world's major art centres and rich in works of the renaissance — took over from Athens last month as the continent's official cultural capital, with European Community sponsorship and money from the Italian government.

At the inauguration ceremony, the Socialist mayor of Florence met Greek Culture Minister Melina Mercouri, French President Francois Mitterrand and various cultural figures and delegates from other countries to launch the year's events.

But as the politicians made their speeches and acclaimed the artistic wonders of the past, the local media took a starkly different view based firmly in the present.

In a monthly edition timed to coincide with the ceremony, one local magazine questioned the amount of money being spent on culture while, it said, basic services in the city were being allowed to be run down.

"Florence is beginning to look like a pigsty with its 'permanent exhibition' of rubbish cluttering the pavements on every street," the magazine, Toscana Qui, said. It added that Florentines were fed up with the filthy state of their city.

"The city's dignity, aristocratic beauty, unequalled courtesy and role as a universal city are all dying," it said in an editorial.

Behind the criticism can be detected strong local pride in the city's artistic heritage and anger at what some see as official neglect. Many, for whom tourism is a major source of revenue, are worried about the civic image.

The 16th-century Uffizi Palace, home to some of the greatest art treasures and just a few steps away from mayor Massimo Bogianckino's office in the 14th-century Palazzo Vecchio, seems to bear witness to some of the critics' claims.

Graffiti, much of it in English, can be seen scrawled along the elegant renaissance arcade walls. At night the colonnades often become an open-air dormitory for the international backpacking fraternity.

Other critics have attacked the mayor for his handling and selection of cultural events.

One national magazine said the

honour bestowed on Florence had become such a controversy that it risked undermining the city's cultural credibility.

A panel of experts selected 150 events for the year out of a total of 250 put forward to the city council. Some took place before the official inauguration because they were arranged before Florence was named as cultural capital.

They included a major exhibition of the works of the 14th-century sculptor Donatello to mark the 600th anniversary of his birth in Florence as well as a collection of works of art by 16th-century artists of the Florentine School.

The official programme of events also lists a wealth of diverse

themes ranging from discussions on modern cinema to exhibitions of modern European artistic movements, with Florentine culture past and present well represented.

The exhibitions, concerts and theatrical events have been divided by the organisers into three groupings with the headings "Florence for Europe," "Europe for Florence" and "a city of Culture."

But some critics attacked the labels as banal and superficial, and questioned the choice of some of the events for their artistic interest and relevance to the city.

"The exhibitions should show what Florentine culture meant to Europe in the past and how long it lasted for," one local historian

said, adding that he thought many subjects had been hastily improvised.

Another rejected the entire idea of Florence as an official culture capital voicing the view that the city was above such modish titles. "Florence does not need to be proclaimed Miss Culture," he said.

Organisers answered criticism by saying that the city had been given little notice before being made European cultural capital and that matters were made worse by an Italian government crisis.

They said the point of the cultural events was also to encourage an interest in contemporary art and other cultures rather than just the past and local history.

Fast-breeder cow means big money for dairy farmers

By Catherine Arnst
Reuters

EAST MONTPELIER, Vermont — G-Metacalf Valiant Mist-Et lives like the queen she is — in a perfumed, air-conditioned, immaculate stall with guards protecting her round the clock.

Mist, as those close to her like to call her, is one of the most valuable dairy cows in the world. She sold at auction last year for \$1.3 million, against \$1,000 to \$3,000 for the average milker.

Her owners, a group of syndicated investors, paid up not because of the rich, high-fat milk she produces at double the rate of most cows, but because of her reproductive potential.

As Jerome Rappaport, a Boston real estate developer and head of the syndicate, put it: "We are in the business of manufacturing cows as opposed to milk."

The farmers that buy the product — embryos — stand to upgrade their herds, so they can achieve the milk output they want with fewer cows to feed.

Rappaport owns Lylehaven farms, a Vermont breeding farm whose 400 head of Holsteins, including Mist, are worth about \$4.5 million. That makes the dairy herd one of the four most valuable in the world.

About every two months, Mist and the other Lylehaven breeding cows have the embryos they produce carefully harvested. These are then sold for \$200 to \$300 apiece to dairy farms around the world, where they are

implanted into surrogate mothers.

Calves born from the embryos of Mist and her fellow breeders are very valuable. Her six-month-old son Lylehaven Messiah recently sold at auction for \$157,000.

The purchase was highly speculative, since Messiah will not produce any progeny for two years and his track record as a breeder will not be established until he is at least five years old. But if his daughters turn out like his mother, Messiah's stud fees could earn his owners up to \$5 million.

Such high prices may seem odd since the dairy industry is in one of its worst slumps ever. Milk is selling for only \$1 a gallon (3.79 litres) wholesale and 10 per cent of the U.S. dairy farmers have agreed to have their herds bought and destroyed by the federal government to reduce production.

"With the price of milk down so low, the only way a farmer can meet his set costs is to either add more cows or try to increase production of the ones he has," said Bob Fitzsimmons, general manager of Lylehaven, about 200 miles northwest of Boston.

"By upgrading the herd genetically, a farmer can get a lot more milk without increasing the size of his herd."

The \$ 25-million a year Holstein embryo industry operates on the theory that a great milker, whose ancestors were also great milkers, will give birth to dairy cows that may eat as much hay as the next cow but produce a lot more milk.

considered the best milk producers in the world, and registered Hosteins, the best of the breed, are prized by ordinary dairy farmers for the genes they pass on.

One of Lylehaven's top-of-the-line Hosteins can churn out about 4,000 gallons (over 15,000 litres) of milk a year, more than double the average of 1,875 gallons (7,100 litres) produced by regular dairy cows.

Embryo sales are a relatively new segment of the dairy breeding industry. Bull semen for artificial insemination has been sold since the 1950s and is now a \$100-million a year business in the United States alone, where two-thirds of all cattle are bred through insemination.

But the breeding industry's potential was not fully realised until 1973, when researchers performed the first non-surgical embryo transfer in a cow. Previously, they could become pregnant only once a year and bore only about 10 calves in a lifetime.

Mist, on the other hand, has already "produced" 16 in her first 4½ years of life and another 14 are currently developing in the wombs of other cows.

To perform an embryo transfer, a cow is injected with fertility drugs that make her produce an unusually high number of eggs during ovulation.

The cow is then inseminated with semen from a prize bull and a few days later, when the eggs develop into embryos, they are flushed out of the cow and either

frozen or injected into surrogate mothers.

Fitzsimmons said researchers are now trying to perfect methods to determine the sex of an embryo, which could increase the efficiency of dairy farming 10-fold, since 95 per cent of all bulls are slaughtered for beef within a year.

But even with half of all embryos likely to be bulls, the demand for Lylehaven's product has increased dramatically over the last two years as milk prices have dropped, Rappaport said.

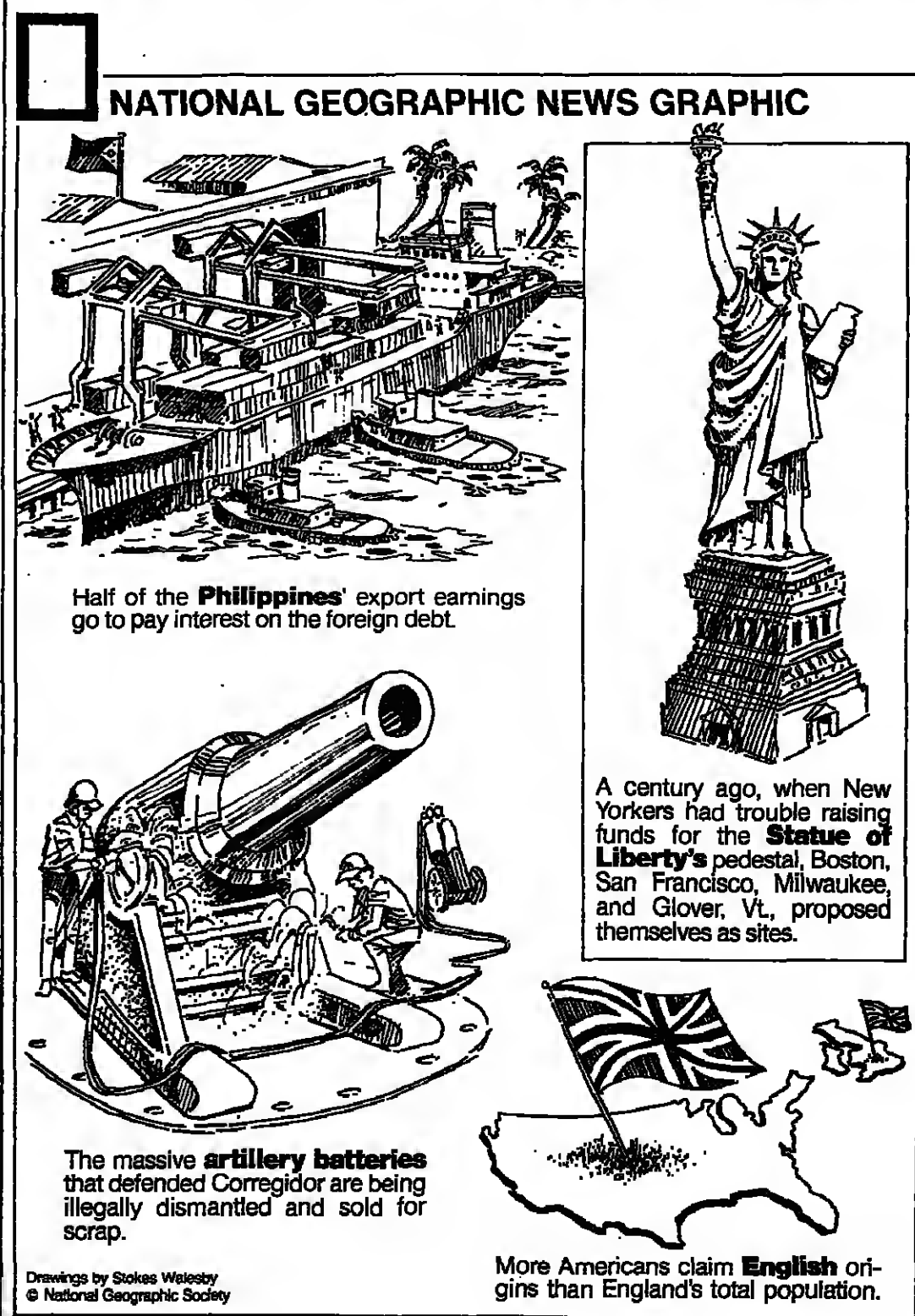
The biggest increase in demand has come from overseas, where European, South American and Japanese dairy farmers are anxious to add the U.S. Holstein genes to their own herds.

Because most countries ban the importation of live cattle, foreign demand for embryo transfers may eventually equal domestic sales, said Rappaport's son Jim, a co-owner of Lylehaven.

"Our overseas sales were originally only 10 per cent of our total," Jim said, "but for the last couple of months they've been close to 30 per cent."

But he sees the most critical need for the embryos in the Third World, where a few top milk-producing Hosteins could feed an entire village.

"The great thing about dairy cattle is they produce human food from feed that can't be eaten by humans," he said. "A village could put up a complete milking system for \$4,000 to \$5,000 and be well on its way to solving its food supply problem."



Burgsmueller hat-trick saves Werder Bremen

BONN (R) — A second half hat-trick from 36-year-old striker Manfred Burgsmueller saved Werder Bremen from an embarrassing home defeat on the opening day of the West German League soccer season Saturday.

But while Werder came back from two goals down at the break to beat Nuremberg 5-3, champions Bayern Munich were surprisingly held to a 2-2 draw at home by Borussia Dortmund.

Werder, runners-up last season for the third time in four years when Bayern pipped them on goal difference, were stunned by first half goals from Dieter Lieberwirth and Norwegian striker Jørn Andersen.

But the wily Burgsmueller scored twice shortly after the interval and completed his hat-trick just 10 minutes from time. Substitute Frank

Ordnewitz added two late goals with Roland Grahmmer converting a penalty for Nuremberg in between.

Bayern got off to the best possible start in their title defence when Roland Wohlfarth scored in the first minute.

But Dortmund, who pulled off a shock win in the Olympia Stadium last season, fought back and 19-year-old striker Daniel Simmes dribbled around Bayern's Belgian World Cup goalkeeper Jean-Marie Pfaff to equalise after half an hour.

It was the first league goal conceded by Pfaff since March and left him 30 minutes short of the Bundesliga "Clean Sheet" record of 566 minutes.

Lothar Matthaeus restored Bayern's lead just after the interval but Michael Zorc scored a deserved equaliser in the 69th minute and Simmes later missed a great chance of notching the winner.

Fears that the West German national team's defensive mentality during the Mexico World Cup Finals might rub off on the Bundesliga proved unfounded with 39 goals being scored in eight matches, nearly five per game.

Eintracht Frankfurt went to the

top of the table for at least a week with a 5-0 win over Fortuna Duesseldorf which included maiden goals for the club by Polish World Cup player Wlodzimierz Smolarek, who scored twice, and Australian striker Dave Mitchell.

Cologne and Stuttgart both discovered that big summer spending does not necessarily bring instant results.

Cologne went down 3-1 to Bochum, though their goal was at least scored by Thomas Allofs, one of their new signings.

Stuttgart were beaten 3-2 by Waldhof Mannheim.

The two newly promoted clubs, Blau-Weiss Berlin and FC Homburg, both suffered home defeats in their first ever Bundesliga matches. The Berlin club conceded two penalties as they lost 4-1 to Kaiserslautern while Homburg fell 2-0 to Bayer Uerdingen.

Souness sent off in debut

The keenly-awaited debut of Graeme Souness as player-manager of Glasgow Rangers ended in sensational fashion Saturday when the Scotland captain was sent off after 37 minutes of the Premier Division game with Hibernian.

Hibernian profited immediately from the departure of Souness by going 2-1 ahead through Steve Cowan seconds before halftime. The Edinburgh side held on through a torrid second half to leave in tatters Rangers' dreams of a triumphant start to the season.

Moses runs streak to 114

LONDON (AP) — It's been nine years since Ed Moses lost a 400-metre hurdles race. But the bearded American with the world-beating technique still claims there is no magic formula to his success.

"If there was a secret, I'd try to package it and market it but there really isn't," Moses told reporters Friday after posting his 114th successive victory stretching back to Aug. 26, 1977, when Harald Schmidt of West Germany beat him in Berlin.

"It's just the years of effort and dedication I've put in. That's really the secret to anything, where it be in academics or sports," Moses said.

For the first half of Friday's race at Crystal Palace Stadium, Moses was on course to break his own world record of 47.02 seconds, set in Koblenz, West Germany, three years ago.

In the end, he tired and missed the record by more than a second but he was still far too strong for the rest of the field and won in 48.21 seconds.

Moses is now expected to go on to Budapest and Berlin for his next two races although there are unconfirmed reports of a clash with Danny Harris at the Weltklasse meet in Zurich next Wednesday.

Harris, the current overall men's leader in the IAAF-Mobil Grand Prix, has run 48.22 seconds this season and is being tipped as the man to end Moses's long unbeaten streak.

But Moses won't even entertain the thought of losing, to Harris or anyone else.

"I don't think about it. I just go out and run every race the same

and plan on winning," Moses said.

Friday's programme at Crystal Palace, the first Grand Prix meet since July 15, was marked by a series of upsets and disappointments.

Said Aquita, Morocco's 1,500 and 5,000 metre world record holder, was due to have made his first British appearance since the Los Angeles Olympics but withdrew without explanation a few hours before the meet.

The 12,000 crowd missed another big star in action when 110-metre hurdler Renaldo Nehemiah aggravated an achilles tendon injury while warming up for his race and had to pull out.

Nehemiah, the world record holder, was to have made his second comeback appearance since the end of a four-year ban for playing professional gridiron football.

The American, who made a successful return to the track on Wednesday when he won a race in Italy, said he would return to the United States for treatment and come back to Europe next month.

Britain's Peter Elliott, normally a front-runner, changed tactics and upset America's Johnny Gray in the 800 metres.

Elliott set in the middle of the pack until the final 250 metres when he steadily cut back the American's lead. In the final few strides, Gray, the second fastest man in the world this year, was nipped on the line in a photo finish.

There was another surprise in the men's 300 metres when Kirk Baptiste, who set the world record for the distance on the same track two years ago, only managed third place in 32.01 seconds.

Senna takes pole from Mansell

By Ian Keresey

Reuters

BUDAPEST — Brazilian Ayrton Senna went for a spin in the countryside outside Budapest and finished the trip in pole position for Sunday's Hungarian Grand Prix.

Williams' pair Nigel Mansell of Britain and Nelson Piquet of Brazil had been expected to finish final practice where they ended Friday's initial run — first and second respectively.

But it was Lotus driver Senna who stole the honours with a stunning lap of one minute 29.450 seconds (161.547 kph) midway through the one hour session which was run in sweltering conditions.

It was Senna's sixth pole position of the season and left him with a great chance of winning the first Grand Prix to be staged in Eastern Europe since the world championship began in 1950.

Soon after Senna had shaken his

rivals, particularly title leader Mansell, with his first qualifying run, his Lotus went into a spectacular 360 degree spin. Moments later he spun again, ruining his second permitted set of tyres and losing any chance of improving his time.

Reigning world champion Alain Prost of France, like Senna and Piquet, challenging Mansell for the crown, slotted his McLaren into second place for a while with 1:29.945. But Piquet managed to regain the front row of the starting grid with 1:29.785.

Mansell, desperate to increase his seven point lead over Prost in the standings, made a late attempt to restore himself at the head of the field. He improved from 1:30.223 to 1:30.072 but it was only good enough for fourth place behind Prost.

During the morning's untimed run Mansell tangled with the Brabham of Italian Riccardo Patrese and was left with a bruised knee after his car struck safety

barriers. Senna, who has certainly entertained the gradually improving crowd in his bid to learn the tricky and slippery Hungarian circuit said: "It was two more spins in a weekend of spins but in the end I had pole."

He warned: "Concentration and physical effort will be the key to victory. It's a demanding circuit and it is very slippery."

Senna also gave some advice to the highly trained but inexperienced trackside marshalls who appeared to hesitate when his car slowed to a stop at the side of the track.

"The marshalls must learn that when a car spins off they must not be afraid to come forward and push the car out of the way. We need immediate help to avoid what could be a dangerous situation."

Senna's effort lifted Lotus past Ferrari's record 103 pole positions in the championship.

Norman takes four stroke lead at PGA

By Bob Green

AP Golf Writer

TOLEDO, Ohio — Greg Norman recovered from a brief lapse with birdies on three of the last four holes and opened up a four-shot lead Friday after two rounds of the 68th PGA National Championship.

His fast finish — he used only three putts on the last four holes — enabled him to double his lead. His margin went from two strokes to four on his 133 total, nine shots under par after 36 holes over the

Inverness Club course.

Norman, who won the British Open after challenging for both the Masters and the U.S. Open and setting a single-season money-winning record of \$564,729 on the American tour, opened with a 65.

The familiar figure of Jack Nicklaus of the United States — the 46-year-old Masters champion and holder of a record 18 major professional titles — moved into contention.

Nicklaus, playing about four hours in front of Norman, also had a 68 and reached the tournament halfway point at 138, four under par and five off the pace.

His unmatched collection of major titles includes six Masters, five PGAs, four U.S. Opens and three British Opens.

Payne Stewart of the United States, who seems to reserve his best play for the game's major championships, and PGA tour rookie Mike Hulbert of the United States moved into a tie for second at 137, five under par.

Stewart birdied the final hole for a 67 and Hulbert shot a 68. Nicklaus was tied at 138 with compatriots Peter Jacobsen and

Jim Thorpe. Jacobsen had a solid 70 and Thorpe shot 67.

All of the leaders, except Norman, played in the more calm conditions of the morning, with the greens still soft and yielding from recent rains.

It was more than tough enough for such players as Seve Ballesteros of Spain, Bernhard Langer of West Germany, Puzzy Zoeller of the United States, U.S. Open champ Ray Floyd and John Mahaffey, both of the United States.

All failed to qualify for the final two rounds Saturday and Sunday. Ballesteros, winner of five of his last six starts in Europe, was 76-150. Langer shot 74-147. Floyd was 71-147. Zoeller was 75-148, and Mahaffey 78-149. Arnold Palmer of the United States, 56 years old and still chasing the one major title that has eluded him, also missed at 77-152.

Tom Watson, needing this title to become only the fifth man to complete a career sweep of golf's big four titles, improved to 69-141, but was eight shots back with two rounds remaining.

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Announces the start of registration for children as of today 10/8/86 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and from 4:00-6:00 p.m. Registration is made at the premises of the Montessori World Kindergarten in Sweifih, near Korean building. Work will be at the Kindergarten's new location in Shmeisani, behind the comprehensive school.

For information, call: 812410, Amman

SECTION 1. INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

Date: 09/08/1986
Loan No.: 2694-JO
IFB No.: 57/86/ST

The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan has received a loan from the World Bank in various currencies towards the Jordan Water and Sewerage Project and it is intended that part of the loan will be applied for eligible payments under the contract(s) for which this IFB has been issued.

The Water Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply of steel pipes of various sizes.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from, and inspect the bidding documents at, the office of the President, Water Authority, Nabulus Street, Jabal Al Hussein, P.O. Box 2412 Amman, Jordan, Tel. 666111/7. Tlx: No. 22439 WAJ-JO. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder on the submission of a written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of JD 500. All bids must be accompanied by a security of five percent of the bid amount and must be delivered to the above office on or before 1200 hours, Jordan local time, on Tuesday, Sept. 23, 1986.

Eng. Mohammad S. Kilani
President
Water Authority

INVITATIONS

On the occasion of His Majesty King Hussein's Coronation day, the Department of Antiquities gladly invites all citizens and residents to visit Museums and sites free of charge on this happy day, 11 August 1986.

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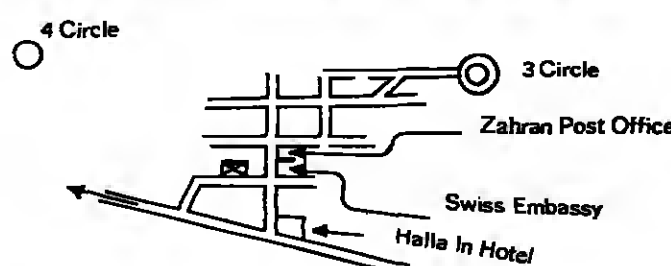
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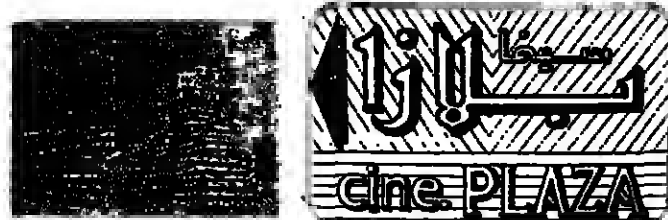
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Hundreds of S. African black residents evicted from townships

Winnie Mandela, Helen Suzman detained briefly

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Hundreds of black residents of three townships who have not paid rent in nearly two years were evicted Saturday, a local reporter said.

The evictions took place in Sebokeng, Evaton and Boipitong, all in the Vaal Triangle, about 50 kilometres south of Johannesburg.

Rent strikes, called usually to protest poor service or the presence of security troops in the townships, have been widespread. Some people have said they were intimidated by township gangs into not paying rent.

Activities of security forces cannot be reported without permission from the government's Bureau of Information, and a spokeswoman there said she could not immediately confirm any information about evictions.

But the bureau reported that a school was set on fire in Evaton.

The bureau also reported a retired policeman was killed when a hand grenade was thrown into his home in the city of Durban on Friday, bringing the confirmed death toll from political violence to 220 since a nationwide state of emergency was declared on June 12.

Residents in the three townships began their rent boycott after the local councils imposed a five-rand rent increase (an increase worth one dollar at the time) in September 1984, sparking riots.

Township councils get all their revenue from rent payments, and evictions have been increasing as the local councils run out of

money and try to make way for new renters who will pay their bills.

The townships are extremely overcrowded, with long waiting lists for houses and many people living in garages or backyard shacks.

Applications were filed in Bloemfontein and Rand supreme courts during the week to set aside the rent increases in Sebokeng, Boipitong, and another township, Bophelong, and to stop evictions in Soweto in Johannesburg. But no court action has been taken.

On Friday, two of South Africa's most prominent critics of apartheid were detained briefly by soldiers while visiting a Soweto school.

Black activist Winnie Mandela and white parliament member Helen Suzman, along nine journalists accompanying them, were released after about 30 minutes.

"It must be extremely distressing for black students to be confronted at every turn by a man with his finger on the trigger," said Mrs. Suzman, 68, who has joined black leaders in protesting recent deployment of troops at schools.

Mrs. Suzman, who belongs to the opposition Progressive Federal Party, went to Soweto on Friday to visit Mrs. Mandela, wife of imprisoned African National Congress (ANC) leader Nelson

Mandela. British, U.S. and South African reporters and photographers accompanied her to the black township of 1.5 million people outside Johannesburg.

They went to Pheteni Secondary School, about 200 metres from Mrs. Mandela's home. However, the principal said the visit was unexpected and that they could not tour school grounds because of security restrictions.

As the visitors left, they were detained for a short time at the entrance.

Meanwhile, the lawyer for the Sowetan, the largest-selling black newspaper in the country, said the national police commissioner had ordered all copies of Friday's edition seized.

Lawyer Paul Jenkins said the order declared the edition "undesirable," but he did not say what was considered objectionable.

The Bureau for Information confirmed that copies of the Sowetan were seized in one district of Transvaal province but said it had no information about a nationwide seizure.

Jenkins said the order was issued Friday afternoon, when most of the more than 100,000 copies of the paper probably would have been sold.

In another development the leader of South Africa's six million Zulus has sharply criticised the country's white leaders and hinted he might revise his moderate stand.

Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, a

major figure among black leaders who operate within Pretoria's policy of tribal homelands and denounced by radicals as a collaborator, said President P.W. Botha was taking South Africa into the wilderness.

Buthelezi attacked Mr. Botha's rejection of British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe's peace mission this month and said the president was seen by the world as "a Third World amateur... employing Boer war-style Afrikaner diplomacy."

"There must come a time when I say enough is enough. There must come a time when the South African government's actions and attitudes demand that I revise my position before I become an outdated, has-been politician," Buthelezi also told a businessmen's conference in Natal Friday night.

The chief reiterated he would not support Mr. Botha's proposals to call a national council of leaders of all races until black nationalist Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners were freed.

Another black leader freed Friday after being held for two months under emergency powers imposed in June said the emergency laws would not crush black resistance.

"The emergency was intended to wipe out black resistance but it is bound to fail because of the current political and economic situation," said Saths Cooper, president of the Azanian People's Organisation (AZAPO), told Reuters.

Thousands turned away from Soweto funeral

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Thousands of people were turned away from a funeral Saturday for three blacks killed in what was described as a power battle between gangs in the black township of Soweto.

Five hundred mourners were allowed into the Emadwaleni High School, where the funeral was restricted to two hours. Students from nearly all of Soweto's high schools arrived in buses, trucks and cars, in groups from 20 to 100, said a reporter, who was also not allowed inside.

Some people had arrived as early as 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) for the 11 a.m. service.

Those turned away, estimated at up to 15,000, were milling in the streets in a huge crowd around the school. Some were commandeering cars to take them to the Athlone Cemetery, where the three teenagers were to be buried.

Local reporters described the situation in the streets as tense.

Funeral processions are not permitted under emergency regulations, and services are usually limited in length and number of mourners. The burial of more than one person at a time is unusual since the state of emergency was declared on June 12.

Activities of security forces, either police or soldiers, cannot be reported under the emergency regulations without permission from the government. A spokeswoman at the Bureau for Information said she had no immediate information on the situation in Soweto.

The three dead students have been described by residents of the Orlando neighbourhood as "comrades" young men who

enforce school and work boycotts as a way of battling the legalised apartheid system of racial separation and denial of political rights to the black majority.

The bullet-riddled bodies of the three teenagers were found in the open field, outside the city, last weekend. Three other boys, reportedly abducted with them and stuffed into car trunks, survived but were badly injured and were described as battling for their lives at Baragwanath Hospital.

Jefferson Lengane, 29, a member of the Azanian Peoples Organisation, which rejects white participation in the struggle for change of the South African system, was arraigned in Soweto district court on Thursday on charges of murder and attempted murder in the case.

U.N. chief ready to serve again if asked

UNITED NATIONS (R) — U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, coalescing after a quadruple heart bypass operation, has said he is available for another term as U.N. chief.

There had been speculation after the operation that the 66-year-old Peruvian diplomat, whose five-year term ends on Dec. 31 and who recently bought a home in Madrid, might consider retiring.

Earlier, a U.N. spokesman said Mr. Perez de Cuellar would not travel to Harare early next month to address a summit of the 101-member Non-Aligned Movement. He has also called off tentative plans to visit Peking afterwards, since his doctor has advised against air travel for the time being.

But at his first meeting with U.N. reporters since his operation on July 24, Mr. Perez de Cuellar said that while he was "not running for office," he was ready to serve if asked.

U.S. airlines reportedly safer than others

WASHINGTON (R) — U.S. airlines flying international routes have better security than foreign carriers using the same airports, according to a congressional report.

The report by the House Foreign Affairs Committee was based on findings of staff investigators who visited airports in London, Frankfurt, Rome and Athens between May and July.

"The U.S. carriers serving the international airports visited maintain higher security standards and procedures than the other foreign air carriers, with the possible exception of El Al," the report said. El Al is the Israeli airline.

The report on Friday said improved security was due to tighter standards issued by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and action taken by the airlines.

"While this study demonstrates much remains to be done at foreign international airports to

India captures most important Sikh fugitive

NEW DELHI, India (AP) — Punjab security forces Saturday captured the most important Sikh terrorist in the country; while two prominent Sikh politicians were arrested in the capital, police said.

Manbir Singh Chaheru, commander-in-chief of the Khalistan Commando Force and India's most-wanted fugitive, was arrested at a farm house outside Jullundur, 375 kilometres north west of New Delhi, said Police Director-General Julius F. Rebeiro.

Police arrested the owner of the house, retired army Maj. Baldev Singh Ghuman, who also is a prominent Sikh militant. Two other underground extremists, Charanjit Singh and Santokh Singh, were detained in the raid, police said.

The capture of Manbir Singh, 29, was considered a severe setback to the underground Sikh extremist movement.

The commando force, the largest and most powerful of the underground groups, has been waging a bloody terrorist campaign. Its fighters have selectively killed Sikh opponents while hutching Hindus in Punjab state with random attacks on crowded bazaars and other public places.

Rebeiro said police seized a light machine gun and several rifles in the raid. Manbir Singh was being interrogated to determine the whereabouts of arms caches, Rebeiro said.

Manbir Singh at first tried to hide his identity, and it was only

after sustained interrogation that police realised that it had captured an important terrorist figure, Rebeiro said.

In New Delhi, police arrested two radical Sikh leaders they said had planned to tour western suburbs of the capital that were wracked by Hindu-Sikh rioting on July 26 following the killing of 14 Hindu bus passengers by Sikh extremists in the Punjab.

Detained were former Punjab Chief Minister Prakash Singh Badal, president of a radical Sikh splinter group, and Gurcharan Singh Tohra, a national lawmaker and the former chief of the main Sikh religious council.

The arrests triggered strong protests from moderate and radical Sikhs. Punjab's governing Akali Dal Party, dominated by Sikh moderates, called the detentions a violation of the leaders' constitutional rights.

More than 300 supporters of the detained leaders chanted anti-government slogans at New Delhi's Punjab House, where the two were arrested.

Police said they detained the two fearing that their tour of the riot-torn areas, where curfews are still in effect, could spark more sectarian violence. On Friday, city authorities made a vain attempt to stop Tohra and Badal from entering the capital.

The 29-year-old Manbir Singh was the main bodyguard of Sikh preacher Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, who was slain in the 1984 army attack on the Golden Temple.

Nagasaki marks 41st anniversary of A-bomb

NAGASAKI, Japan (AP) — This bustling port city paused Saturday to recall the day when it was devastated by the atom bomb 41 years ago, killing up to 70,000 people.

Amid solemn music and morning fireworks, Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone led a wreath of chrysanthemums at the memorial cenotaph during the commemorative services.

Some 20,000 people attended the ceremony at Peace Park near the Hypocentre, the point directly below where the bomb exploded at 11:02 a.m. on Aug. 9, 1945.

Three days before, 130,000 died in Hiroshima, the world's first city to be atom-bombed. The two blasts brought about Japan's surrender.

Local youths offered flowers and water in a symbolic gesture to soothe the burns of the thousands whose bodies were scorched by the atomic blast.

At precisely 11:02 church bells pealed, and sirens and train whistles wailed for one minute.

Hundreds of doves were released, and a chorus of primary and secondary school students sang Appeal for Peace.

Mr. Nakasone pledged that his government "will promote discussion and negotiation, and carry on an aggressive diplomacy to realise results in nuclear disarmament."

People in the crowd fanned themselves in the morning heat to the raucous accompaniment of cicadas that filled the surrounding trees.

Mayor Hitoshi Motoshima also addressed the gathering.

"We must draw a lesson from the Chernobyl nuclear accident and urge the world to prevent nuclear war," he said. "Japan will adhere strictly to the three non-nuclear principles, and strive to stop the spread of the militarisation of space."

The principles adopted by Japan ban the production, possession and introduction into Japan of nuclear arms.

Resort rocked by topless shower incident

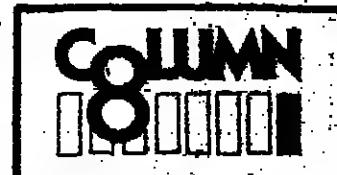
DURBAN, South Africa (R) — The trial and tribulations of a 27-year-old black woman who showered topless on a beach have become a cause celebre in the South African seaside resort of Durban. Sibongile Ndlela, jailed for 50 days for offending public decency on Wednesday because she could not pay a \$40 fine, was freed after a well-wisher paid the money. Local newspapers were flooded with calls from white Durban residents offering the cash for her release. Meanwhile, the judge president of Natal province, John Milne, took the unusual step of ordering Ndlela's release and demanding to see a copy of the proceedings in the magistrate's court, but the payment of the fine freed her before the order could take effect.

He would not be willing to preside over a financially crippled organisation, he said.

The secretary general is following a limited work schedule at home, including receiving a limited number of staff and diplomats.

He said he hoped to be back at U.N. headquarters in September, after about a week's vacation on Long Island. This is his usual routine before plunging into the annual assembly session.

He said he felt no pain and described his operation as basically preventive. He had been told he would feel 10 years younger, he added.



5-year-old saves friend from choking

LYNN, Mass (R) — A five-year-old boy saved his six-year-old playmate from choking to death by using a technique he couldn't pronounce but had seen on television. Brent Meldrum of Lynn, Massachusetts, came to the rescue of neighbour Tanya Brandon when she began choking on a piece of hard candy Monday, said his mother Susan Meldrum. Meldrum said she saw the little girl gagging, and was about to "panic and run for help" when Brent said he knew what to do, having seen the Heimlich manoeuvre — which he called the "time-life remover" — on a recent rerun of the Benson show. The boy got behind Tanya, locked his arms around her chest and forced the piece of candy out. His quick thinking gained him a congratulatory phone call from Robert Guillaume, the actor who portrays Benson, and next Monday he will be presented a medal of honour by Lynn Mayor Albert Diveriglio in the presence of Dr. Henry Heimlich of Cincinnati, Ohio, who invented the procedure. Dr. Heimlich said he believes Meldrum is the youngest person ever to use the manoeuvre, which he estimated has saved some 10,000 lives in the United States alone since it was introduced in 1974. Unfortunately, Brent's act of heroism did not get him all the rewards he wanted. Tanya said that she was very grateful but "I'm still not going to kiss him."

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. "tree of peace" is dead. "It was disturbed too much," a U.N. gardener said, confirming that the young Costa Rican cypress had died. "I think it was a botanical, not a political development," said U.N. Spokesman Joe Silks. But the death of the young tree was viewed by some here as darkly symbolic for the U.N. International Year of Peace, which got off to a bad start anyway with fighting in Afghanistan, Central America, Iran-Iraq, Lebanon, and southern Africa.

The sapling, meant to commemorate the Year of Peace and World Environment Day, was planted ceremoniously just two months ago by Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, who since has undergone a quadruple coronary bypass operation and is recuperating at his residence. The tree was uprooted from the "Mountain of the Dead" in Costa Rica's Talamanca Range. Costa Rican Ambassador Emilia Castro de Barish said this type of tree usually is "very strong, withstanding wind and snow."

'Tree of peace' dies at U.N.

U.S. rejects call for ban on nuclear arms tests

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department on Friday rejected appeals from six world leaders and insisted U.S. nuclear weapons must be tested to counter a massive Soviet buildup and to maintain international security.

"The heart of the problem we face, in working to preserve peace and stability, is not the testing of nuclear weapons," the department said in a statement read by spokesman Charles E. Redman.

He said the Soviets had caused "dangerous disparities" in nuclear weapons with a massive buildup. Banning U.S. weapons tests "would undercut efforts to move to a more stable strategic balance," he said.

The six European and Third World leaders, meeting in Mexico City this week, urged the United States to join a Soviet freeze and offered a detailed plan for monitoring a test ban with their own instruments and observers.

Redman said the United States shares their objective that there never be a nuclear war. He also said resuming the test-ban negotiations with the Soviet Union, broken off in 1979, is a long-term goal.

But, the spokesman said, the proposal by the six leaders "would not enhance stability or reduce the risk of war. Instead, these proposals would perpetuate the dangerous disparities which the massive Soviet nuclear buildup has created."

The six leaders, who said in a declaration "we cannot accept that a few countries should decide the nuclear fate of the world," were presidents Miguel de la Madrid of Mexico and Raul Alfonsin of Argentina and prime ministers Rajiv Gandhi of India, Andreas Papandreu of Greece, Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden and former president Julius Nyerere of Tanzania.

Sporadic rioting erupts in N. Ireland Catholic areas

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (Agencies) — Sporadic rioting erupted Saturday in Catholic areas of Belfast and Londonderry on the 15th anniversary of the introduction of internment without trial.

The violence followed rioting by Protestant marchers at Keady near the border with the Irish Republic Friday night when police stopped them from parading through the centre of the mainly Catholic town.

A press officer at Belfast Police Headquarters said that in Londonderry, the British-ruled

province's second largest city, Catholic youths threw gasoline bombs and stones at army and police vehicles and that gunmen fired several shots at the vehicles.

The press officer, who in accordance with British practice declined to be named, said troops and police fired back and also fired volleys of plastic bullets to break up the crowds.

The Catholic West Belfast youths attacked police vehicles with gasoline bombs and stones and police replied with plastic bullets.

Finnish gunman, hostage die when car blows up

MIKKELI, Finland (R) — A gunman and a man he took hostage during a Helsinki bank holdup were killed Saturday when the getaway car they were in blew up but two women hostages escaped, police said.

Earlier reports said one of the women had died in the blast but police confirmed that both women had escaped just before the explosion occurred in this town north east of Helsinki after a 300 kilometre chase.

A senior police spokesman confirmed eyewitness reports that a uniformed policeman had fired at the car shortly before it exploded.

With the women acting as go-betweens, police had talked with the man for over two hours before the explosion in which several officers were hurt.

Eyewitnesses said the gunman had remained hooded and held himself low in the vehicle.

Police said the man, a Finnish speaker in his mid-twenties, had vowed to kill 11 hostages he took at the bank in Helsinki Friday if he was not allowed to escape with ransom money.

He fled with the money, described as a large sum, in a car driven by the bank manager and with the two women.

Honduran police raid home of major contra supplier

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — Police raided a major supplier of U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels after receiving reports that he was housing his own private security force, the national police chief said.

Police chief Col. Wilfredo Sanchez told a news conference that police raided the home of National Party congressman Rodolfo Zelaya early Friday because they had heard reports that he was harbouring a private security force not registered with authorities.

He said three people were in custody pending investigation and that rifles and pistols were found during the search of the house in

one of Tegucigalpa's most affluent neighbourhoods.

Mr. Zelaya told reporters Friday that he, three female relatives, and seven other people were taken to a police station but that he and his family were freed in 20 minutes.

His relationship with top Honduran military officers has been tense since news reports alleged that he was operating a front business with officers to skim hundreds of thousands of dollars of personal profit from supply shipments for Nicaraguan rebels, known as contras. These are paid for with the \$27 million in humanitarian aid granted to the rebels by Congress last year.

Yurchenko claims being forced to testify against Bulgarian

MOSCOW (AP) — A reputed KGB defector who said he was kidnapped by U.S. agents claimed in an article published Saturday that the agents tried to force him to testify against a Bulgarian who was charged in the shooting of the Pope.

Vitaly Yurchenko was described by U.S. officials as one of the KGB's most senior spies when he was reported to have defected to the U.S. embassy in Rome in August 1985.

He surfaced at the Soviet embassy in Washington that November, claiming he had been kidnapped, drugged and brought to the United States by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Yurchenko later returned to Moscow and held a news conference at which he repeated those allegations.

His return was an embarrassment to the CIA and prompted speculation in the Western media that he had been planted by the KGB in the first place.

Saturday's article, published by the Moscow Communist Party organ Moskovskaya Pravda, was billed as an update on Yurchenko's health and status.

But Yurchenko devoted only one paragraph to those points, saying he spent two months "in treatment" after he came back, is now healthy and "returned to

work at my old post." He did not say what that post was.

Yurchenko had said at the press conference that he worked for the Foreign Ministry providing security for Soviet embassies.

Most of the article was devoted to Yurchenko's analysis of U.S. policy in Central America and the 1985 shooting of Pope John Paul II, based on conversations which he said he had with CIA officials.

Bulgarian Sergei Antonov was charged with complicity in the attack on the Pope. Yurchenko said the charges were fabricated by the CIA to discredit Bulgaria and the Soviet Bloc.

The CIA, he said, wanted him to go to the Antonov trial and testify that the KGB sent him to Rome in 1985 to help Antonov, who was later released for lack of evidence.

"I was supposed to state that the Bulgarians prepared the attack on the Pope with the KGB. They (Bulgarians) took care of the practical preparations of the participants in the attack while the Russians gave recommendations and supplied money," he said.

Yurchenko said he refused to cooperate. He said he also refused to take part in a press conference which he claimed was being prepared by the CIA for him to denounce Soviet policy in Central America.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q.—Please comment on the following auction:
South West North East
1 NT Pass 2 ♠ Pass
2 NT Pass 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass
1 bid
♠AJS ♣K3 ♣KQ72 ♣K652

We went down two tricks. Partner wanted me for bidding two no trump, saying he had made a "drop dead" bid.—R. C., Indianapolis, Ind.

A.—We have remarked on numerous occasions that we are not fond of the term "drop dead" bid. However, if there is a situation where it does apply, it is a two-level response to an opening one no trump bid.

Opener's hand is strictly limited, and responder does have a number of invitational sequences that he can employ if he thinks there would be play for game opposite a maximum no trump opener. When he does not use one of these, it means his hand is in the 0-7 point range.

There is one case where there might be a game if responder has a maximum sign-off, i.e., 7 points. That is where opener is at the top of his range for his opening bid and has excellent support for re-

sponder's suit—usually at least three cards headed by two high honors, or four cards headed by a top honor. In that case, opener can invite game by raising responder's major suit to the three-level.

The hand you held fails to meet either of these criteria. You had both a minimum no trump opening bid and inadequate support for partner's suit. Without a doubt, you should have passed his two heart response.

Q.—Way do you have Omar Sharif as a co-columnist? He is a movie star, not a bridge player! —V. R., Miami, Fla.

A.—Don't tell Omar Sharif short as a bridge player. He has played bridge at the highest levels and his tournament record is one of which anyone would be proud. His movie commitments do not always allow him as much time as he would like for bridge. For instance, last year he entered only three team events: two at Deer Valley, France, and one in Venice, Italy. However, his team won all three! And the opposition was not to be sneezed at. In Deauville it included Italy's national team and in Venice, besides the Italians, the world champion Polish team was among the competitors.